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For meaning of this No. see page 24.

JOHN BULL

Vol. XVI. No. 412 | SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 1914. | ONE PENNY

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

£500 FOR ONE RESULT

See page 36.

I.

"I say," cried Tomkins, "look at that: I'd better buy another Hat."

II.

Quoth Mrs. Tomkins, who was near, "Try it with 'STROBIN' first my dear."

III.

So Tomkins tried it, and, behold, The Hat is now no longer old.

IV.

"By Jove!" cried Tomkins, "'tis very nice "To get New Hats at this low price."

Clean Your Hats with "STROBIN."

Of all Chemists. 3d. per Packet.

WHOLESALE ONLY.

THOS. CHRISTY & CO., OLD SWAN LANE, LONDON, E.C.

FINDON'S WEEKLY

Competitors' Journal

OFFERS A PRIZE OF

£5 a WEEK

FOR

5 YEARS

FOR

Picture Puzzles

AND

Big Cash Prizes for "SIMPLETS."

This week we publish the COMPLETE LIST of

REGESAN RESULTS.

ON SALE EVERYWHERE. ONE PENNY.

FIRST READ THIS.
If you predict the "Home" Team will win put in ink a X in the Home Column; if you predict the "Away" Team will win put a X in the Away Column. For Draws put a X in the Draw Column.

ENTRANCE FORM.

Matches to be played on dates between May 11 and 25.

HOME.	AWAY.	DRAW.	HOME TEAM.		AWAY TEAM.
			MATCHES.		
			Oxford University	v.	Middlesex
			Cambridge University	v.	Hampshire
			M.C.C.	v.	Yorkshire
			Notts	v.	Sussex
			Leicestershire	v.	Hampshire
			Cambridge University	v.	Middlesex
			Essex	v.	Yorkshire
			Surrey	v.	Worcester
			Middlesex	v.	Sussex
			Warwickshire	v.	Leicestershire
			Hampshire	v.	Yorkshire
			Somerset	v.	Surrey
			Gloucestershire	v.	Warwickshire
			Cambridge University	v.	Sussex
			M.C.C.	v.	Minor Counties
			Northamptonshire	v.	Lancashire
			M.C.C.	v.	Hampshire
			Essex	v.	Middlesex
			Worcestershire	v.	Leicestershire
			Yorkshire	v.	Surrey
			Somerset	v.	Sussex

Enter "JOHN BULL" Cricket Competition in accordance with the rules announced on this page and agree to accept the Editor's published decision as final and legally binding, and enter on that understanding.

Signed .....

Address .....

.....

1 Entrance Forms must be cut, not torn out.

Cut here

DUPLICATE COUPON AND LAST YEAR'S RESULTS

The following duplicate list of the matches is printed solely for the convenience of competitors desirous of keeping a record of their efforts. It must on no account be sent in, and will not be accepted as proof of forecasts made on the Entrance Form.

As a guide to competitors, we also give below last year's results of the matches given on the attached coupon.

Home.	Away.	Draw.	DUPLICATE COUPON.	LAST YEAR'S RESULTS.
			Oxford Univ. v. Middlesex	No match.
			Cam. Univ v. Hampshire	Match drawn.
			M.C.C. v. Yorkshire	No match.
			Notts v. Sussex	Notts won by [illegible]
			Leicestershire v. Hampshire	Match drawn.
			Cam. Univ. v. Middlesex	Cam. Univ. won by [illegible]
			Essex v Yorkshire	Yorkshire won by [illegible]
			Surrey v. Worcester	Match drawn.
			Middlesex v. Sussex	Sussex won by [illegible]
			Warwickshire v. Leices'shire	Warwick. won by [illegible]
			Hampshire v. Yorkshire	Match drawn.
			Somerset v. Surrey	No match.
			Glouces'shire v War'shire	Glos. won by [illegible]
			Cam. Univ. v. Sussex	Sussex won by [illegible]
			M.C.C. v. Minor C'a	No Match.
			North'shire v. Lan'shire	Northants. won by [illegible]
			M.C.C. v. Hampshire	Hampshire won by [illegible]
			Essex v. Middlesex	Match drawn.
			Worces'shire v. Leices'shire	Leicester won by [illegible]
			Yorkshire v. Surrey	Surrey won by 57 [illegible]
			Somerset v. Sussex	Match drawn.

As the Competition is one of skill, you are also advised to study the cricket columns and reports given in the daily papers.

JOHN BULL.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

Vol. XVI. No. 412. Week ending Saturday, April 25th, 1914. One Penny.

£10 REWARD.

Wanted, the Copy of "John Bull" for APRIL 18th, 1914, bearing on its Cover the Number **008,442.**

Apply THE MANAGER, "JOHN BULL,"
63, Long Acre, London, W.C.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

See-Saw.

The see-saw of Party politics goes merrily on. The Lord Chancellor edits his speeches by quietly interpolating the little word "immediately"; Colonel Seely explains that there never was a "plot" to coerce Ulster; the Unionists retort by quoting what was alleged to have been said as to battles and battleships, cavalry, howitzers, the "enemy," and Heaven knows what else; and then, having proved to their own satisfaction that this government is the most wicked on earth—do nothing! Was not it Charles the Second who once said to the Duke of York, "The people will never kill *me* to make *you* king"? No doubt Mr. Asquith often takes comfort from those words.

Asquith the Astute.

Answering a friendly question the other day, Mr. Asquith denied that the Government had decided upon a July election. But it was all part of the Premier's game. As we have so often stated, the Government has no intention of "going to the country" till it gets its Plural Voting Act, and the Opposition has been neatly cornered over the matter. When Mr. Bonar Law was pressing for a Referendum on Home Rule, Mr. Asquith played his trump card. "If we agree to a Referendum," asked he, "will the right hon. gentleman consent that there shall be no plural voting?" And dear Mr. Law "fell into it"! How, then, can he refuse a similar bargain as a condition of a General Election? As the Party game is played, Mr. Asquith is an easy champion.

A Starchfield Suggestion.

If the authorities are genuinely desirous of making reparation to Starchfield, there is one way in which—apart from any question of money grant—they may do so. They should take steps to quash the coroner's inquisition. We will give them a week to think about it. If by then they have not made up their minds, we shall have to take the matter in hand ourselves. It is a monstrous thing that a verdict of "wilful murder" should stand formally recorded against an innocent man.

Municipal Socialism.

So the London County Council is obliged to confess that the tramways do not pay. What an object lesson in Municipal Socialism! When tramways were first introduced, they were doubtless a great public convenience, but when a better mode of locomotion came along in the shape of motor omnibuses,, the Municipalities refused to "scrap" their lines and rolling-stock, and used the rates to bolster up a superseded system. A private company could not do this; either it must adopt the newer and better system or be wound up. The omnibus companies, for instance, sold their horses and substituted motors, and they are now paying better than ever. There are wise people who even foretell that in less than fifty years the railways will in turn become obsolete!

Our Way.

There is trouble in the Labour camp because certain members of the Parliamentary group have ventured upon Radical platforms during the recent "crisis." Happily, there are signs that the moral of these incidents has not been lost upon intelligent trades-unionists. A Nuneaton miner propounds a suggestion which is worthy of wide attention. "The time has come," he declares, "when a Democratic party of trades-unionists, free of all Parties, should be formed so that each constituency can select its own candidate." In short, a Business Labour Movement. Why not?

An Ideal Judge.

What is the cause of the delay in appointing Mr. Dickens, K.C., to the Bench? Is it that he is not a Party hack? Apart from the prestige of his name, he is by temperament and personality the ideal of a judge, and it is little short of a scandal that he should be passed over for the sake of political rewards. True, he is sixty-five years of age, but we are of opinion that the demand for youthful judges may easily be overdone. After all, there are not many Atkinses about. Maturity of experience, ripeness of judgment, impartiality of temperament and dignity of personality are the prime essentials, and all these Mr. Dickens evinced in a marked degree when sitting as Commissioner of Assize. An arrangement as to *pro rata* pension on retirement, and Mr. Justice Dickens should be one of the first successors of the batch of present judges about to retire.

"1, 2, 3."

If you are of sporting proclivities, will you turn to page 36, and indicate, by a few strokes of your pen, which horses you think will finish in the first three for the Victoria Cup, to be run for at Hurst Park on Saturday, May 2nd? It may bring you £500, and will cost you only a postage stamp.

Hey, for the Holidays!

Everybody is thinking of holidays. Turn to page 34, and study the exceptionally attractive offer you will find there.

Great New Summer Competition—£1,000 for a Forecast. See page 29.

Getting Ready.

Masters and men are already "clearing the decks" for the coming struggle in the railway world. The "conciliation agreements," devised by Mr. Lloyd George in 1907, are to terminate towards the end of this year, and with a view to direct negotiation the principal companies have at length agreed upon the formal "recognition" of the National Union of Railwaymen. The demands of the various grades of workers will, in due course, be submitted to a Joint Committee, comprised of Company managers and Union delegates in equal number, but the prospects of peaceful agreement are by no means hopeful. Mr. J. H. Thomas, M.P., the Organising Secretary of the National Union, has pictured an ideal of railway administration which will scarcely enlist the sympathy of the general public. "There must," he says, "be a tribunal between the shareholders and the railway employees, and that tribunal should be the railwaymen's Trade Union." If this claim is to be seriously regarded, it would appear that "syndicalism" is less of a bogy than most of us have been wont to assume.

Bulging Coffers.

Readers who are disposed to complain of the paucity of State Insurance benefits will note with interest that the London Insurance Committee are, at the moment, seriously embarrassed by a superfluity of riches. They are, indeed, at their wits' ends to dispose of a trifle of £140,000 which lies idle in their coffers through the failure of some half million of Londoners to select a panel doctor. It is said that most provincial Committees are in similar straits, and that the total sum involved can be little short of a million sterling. A proposal to disburse the money in bonuses to medical practitioners has been very promptly "scotched" by eminent legal opinion, while the Insurance Commissioners have so far failed to suggest an alternative scheme. Meanwhile, the Committees are paralysed by the fear that any unauthorised expenditure of the money may involve their members in personal surcharge. The matter is clearly one for the consideration of Parliament. Failing a more helpful suggestion, we fancy the money might be usefully applied to the extension of sanatorium benefit, which at present falls far short of public need.

The Drink Bill.

The United Kingdom Alliance is at it again, with its annual statistics of the national drink bill. For 1913, it is put down at 167 millions, being an increase of five millions on the 1912 total; and then follows the usual rubbish about the expenditure "averaging" £3 12s. 5d. per head of the population. Nothing is said about the 40 millions which is deducted by the Chancellor of the Exchequer by way of taxes, of the many millions more which goes in local rates, of the wages of two millions of people employed by the trade, or of the number of subsidiary industries—such as barley and hop growing, cabinet making, shop fitting, etc.—which derive large incomes from the same source. Let our aquapuritan friends ask themselves what would be the effect upon the Labour market, agriculture, manufacturing, local rating, and imperial taxation if the drink trade were abolished. We suppose their reply would be that the bun and milk shops would do a roaring business.

The Costless Party.

Revelations at the conference of the alleged Independent Labour Party at Bradford were that the Keighley by-election exhausted the last cent in their political war chest, and that barring what an authorised levy of a shilling a member brings in they will have to face the General Election without visible means of subsistence. Congratulations to Ramsay!

Bossing the L.C.C.

An extraordinary instance of trade union bossery is brought to our notice. A member of the office staff of a large printing works, being anxious to learn the photogravure printing process, entered a trade-school class under the London County Council. He described himself as a printer, his entrance fee was accepted, and for six weeks he proceeded with his studies. Then he was informed that the Process-Engravers' Union objected to his presence, on the ground that he was not a practical worker, and on their demand he was excluded from the class. If this is a true version of the facts, as we are assured it is, we should like to know not only by what right the Process Engravers' Union interfere, but by what right the London County Council let them interfere. Has it come to this—that a young man is to remain in ignorance of matters useful to him simply through the tyranny of a trade union in exercising pressure to prevent him from taking advantage of the educational privileges afforded by the public Education Authority? An early answer will oblige.

Sunday-Opener and a Minister.

Clapham Junction being a very busy centre, it can hardly be doubted that the shops which open on Sunday in the vicinity contribute to a public want. A confectioner who has a shop not far from the Northcote Road Baptist Church is one of many to fall under the puritan ban of the leading light of that bethel, a rev. gentleman named Hull. Because the confectioner opens on Sunday the minister has even gone to the length of publicly denouncing him from the pulpit, and giving instructions to his district visitors to press the point of Sunday opening against him on their rounds. This is a new form of religious enterprise. Of course, it is only fair to say that our rev. friend may have his grievance. It must be awfully disappointing to send round the plate and discover that half the congregation have spent the collection money on ice-cream, pop, and tarts.

Champing Champ.

The apparent willingness of the United States Congress to do simple justice in the matter of the Panama Canal tolls has excited the frenzied wrath of Speaker Champ Clark. By some devious mental process, the honourable gentleman detects in the British attitude towards this question a veiled menace to the sacred Monroe Doctrine. "Those who assert," he says "that the doctrine is dead, reckon without their host. Americans are ready to meet the world in arms on that issue." This bombastic nonsense was received somewhat coldly by Congress, which was equally unmoved by the Speaker's pious appeal to the "God of our fathers." Meanwhile, though the Monroe Doctrine be not yet dead, we may inform Mr. Champ Clark that, in the elegant parlance of his compatriots, it is "pretty sick," and will soon be "whipped to a frazzle" unless Washington mends its manners.

Manx Rector and a Child.

When the parsons ask why people prefer picture shows, Sunday concerts, and park orchestras to church, the answer is to be found partly, at any rate, in specimens of parsondom like the Rev. T. R. Kneale, Rector of Ballaugh. This gentleman recently "refused"—as many other clergymen of his type do—"to allow the body of a four-months-old child to be taken into church for the purpose of having the burial service read over it" on the ground that the baby had not been baptised. It is not worth while wasting words on the Kneales of the Church. Incurable intolerants and bigots, they are as sounding brass and a tinkling cymbal. They do not make people more religious; they make them more anti-religious, forgetting that it is the spirit, not the letter which giveth life.

"Bullets" Special Holiday Prizes—Value £1,775. See page 34.

Sporting Sweepstakes.

In our next issue we shall deal with this subject—as to which much nonsense has recently appeared in the press. The large sums paid out during the past few weeks in connection with the John Bull Football and Mr. Patrick O'Brien's Grand National Sweeps should dispel any doubt as to the *bona fides* of the leading Continental firms—with whom, as we have already stated, there is no more likelihood of interference than there is of the Derby itself being stopped. The John Bull Derby Sweep, for instance, with its guaranteed Prize Fund of £50,000, has already eclipsed the old Calcutta Club enterprise, and bids fair to become a big international institution. A "flutter" on the Derby is part of an Englishman's life, and so long as our own Government is stupid enough to shut its eyes to the fact, and to the possibilities which it holds out, he will avail himself of the facilities offered by private firms whose financial stability and integrity are beyond dispute.

A Bright Eye-Dea.

The co-operation of the London municipal authorities has been enlisted in the recruiting campaign. The Guards in glittering accoutrements, will parade at Camberwell, and it is hoped that, in the martial atmosphere, wide-spread enlistment may result. With a view to improving the prospect thus afforded, a local Committee has been formed, and arrangements will be made for the recruitment of all branches of the Service, including the Territorial Force and the National Reserve. With subtle deliberation, the Committee have determined to draw their recruiting sergeants from the ranks of the fairer sex, and it is said that "the prettiest girls in the borough" aspire to these stations of honour. The scheme deserves success.

Mourning.

So greatly are Lady Iveagh and Lady Paget saddened about the present state of the Home Rule question in Ireland, that each of them has abandoned a ball to which Dublin Society had looked forward with a great thrill. We do not know whether their ladyships have gone into mourning, but now that they have made resolute protest against the Home Rule Bill by declining to dance, it is distressfully anticipated that other Irish grand dames will refuse to be oppressed even if they have to discontinue playing the piano. Happily this looks like being the full extent of the calamity to Dublin Society, as (D.V.) they all expect to be at Punchestown races, whatever happens.

A Constant Job.

It has recently been contended in the Courts that the office of sexton "in an ancient parish" is a freehold conferring inextinguishable rights upon its holder. It is argued, in short, that you can't "sack" a sexton. This is to form the subject of further argument. Should his prerogative be finally established, we shall anticipate a "run" on the sexton's business, which will thus afford a fixity of tenure unhappily rare in these competitive days. We shall be interested to learn whether the alleged immunity is shared by bell-ringers, pew-openers, grave-diggers, and other minor satellites of the church militant.

More Straws!

There was an election the other day for the Benfield-side Urban District Council—in Lancashire—and one of the candidates was Mr. William Leighton Reed, who, in his address, stated "I hold no brief for clique or party," and then went on to quote a portion of our own motto, "Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant," concluding with this summary of his policy—"Practical work on sound Business lines." He was the only new man elected to the Council!

Nurses and Canada.

Now and again it happens that Canadians who cannot answer our facts about Canada and do not wish to admit them, assert that this or that episode is a mere isolated instance, and proves nothing—whereas it is invariably a specimen of a few hundred of a similar sort covered by up-to-date letters in our possession. "I picked up your paper dated 14th March," says a correspondent who has apparently returned from Canada to his home at Scunthorpe, in Lincolnshire, whether as a millionaire or as one who has saved up just enough money for a return trip we know not, "and noticed a letter from a nurse in Toronto. You do not publish that nurse's name whereby one could trace the authenticity of the letter. It is a slur upon Canada, and I guess that nurse is one who means well by her letter, but you cannot judge Canada and her people by letters such as that." We didn't say you could; but you can judge fairly well by the coincidence that within a day or so after the letter appeared an official *communique* was published by the Canadian Government advising nurses not to emigrate to Canada.

How they Love One Another.

The Kildwick church choir, in Yorkshire, is on strike! We scarcely know whether to smile or grieve at the causes which led to the trouble. It appears that Handel's "Creation" was performed in Silsden Primitive Methodist Chapel, and the organist and choirmaster of the parish church was present, having, by permission of the Vicar, sent a substitute to the church. An acrimonious correspondence ensued, with the result that the organist resigned—whereupon the choir "downed psalters" and came out on a sympathetic strike. The petty, but none the less bitter, squabbles that arise from religious bigotry and intolerance are a disgrace to those who profess and call themselves Christians. We are not surprised at the increasing indifference to dogmatic religion that characterises the present age, if this be the spirit that animates so-called believers.

The Blood Tax.

The Egyptian mail brings details of the tragic fate of Major J. L. T. Conry, of the Connaught Rangers, who was recently reported killed in a skirmish with an outlaw band. It now appears that the gallant major was the victim of a treacherous attack while holding parley with a score of beaten desperadoes whom he had been loth to shoot down in cold blood. The incident serves to emphasise the perils daily faced by officers and men in the common duties of frontier defence. There is little martial glory about the work, which yet demands a grievous toll of precious lives. Unhappily, there is too much reason to believe that these far-flung outposts are frequently undermanned, so that—as recently in Somaliland—lives are ruthlessly sacrificed to the inertia of the authorities at home.

Sorrow and Servants.

Here is a wail from the kitchen. "Is there nothing that can be done?" write two domestics of Malvern, "for servants to lessen the hours and drudgery of life? We are living with one of God's good men (clergyman) and our hours are from 6.30 a.m. till 10 p.m., not forgetting that we are not allowed out in the week, only to church and back again on Sundays; and please pity the poor cook, for she remains in every other Sunday evening to cook fish and game and do part of waiting at table at night. This is how Sunday is kept in a clergyman's house, but we must not forget we have family prayers night and morning." It is only fair to say that is not how Sunday is kept in all clergymen's houses, but if we hear of any further desecration of the "Sabbath" by this reverend gentleman, we shall instantly report it to his congregation.

Another Single-week Sporting Contest—£500 for 1, 2 and 3. See page 36.

Codlin and Short.

Towards the close of last year it was understood that disgruntled postal workers had delayed militant action pending the full discussion of their grievances upon the floor of the House of Commons. So far no such debate has taken place, and it is therefore not surprising that the malcontents should again have grown restive. With a view to expediting matters, several deputations have waited, not only upon Ministers, but upon unofficial bodies of members on either side of the House. To a Radical gathering it was explained that the desired increases of pay would cost the Treasury a trifle of one and a half millions, whereat faithful Ministerialists pulled faces as long as the proverbial violin and smote their breasts in blank despair. The Tories, on the other hand, have hailed the prospect with every semblance of glee, and have declared that if only they were in power they would think nothing of voting double the sum, without asking thanks or reward. Which thing is strictly in accord with the rules of the Westminster game.

Pity the Blind.

Since we wrote sympathetically of the efforts being made by Mr. C. A. Pearson to obtain an ample supply of Braille literature for the blind, many letters have reached us on the matter. Most of them assert that only a very small percentage of the blind can read Braille type, and that after 35 many are deprived of sight without hope of cure. Many blind are unable to give their minds to Braille at all, and in fact never learn it. And then the letters almost invariably get to what the writers evidently regard as the bedrock of things—State aid. That the State does not look after its blind as it should do we admit; and what is wanted is not the State aid which pauperises, but the State aid which leads the sightless to that self-help and self-reliance which will enable them to compete to the utmost maximum of competency with their sighted fellows. A State aid which merely encourages an army of blind to live by what they can get in the gutter would not be a solution of the question at all.

Refreshing Fruit.

For more than a quarter of a century the employees of the Royal Ordnance establishment at Woolwich have been agitating for an adequate pension scheme. We are now happy to state that the War Office actuaries have devised a tentative arrangement which will in due course be submitted to the Treasury for approval. It is understood that it will subsequently be referred back to the War Office, together with any amendments or additions which the Treasury Officials may care to suggest. The draft will then be carefully reconsidered by the military authorities, and, after final approval by the Treasury, submitted to a chosen committee of the men for their observations. At the present rate of progress, it is unlikely that any of the original promoters of the project will live to enjoy the fruition of their labours—but they will doubtless rejoice in the "sure and certain hope" that their toil for posterity has not been wholly vain.

Poverty and Prohibition.

It is a commonplace among water-bibbers that drink is the mother of poverty. Facts, however, are more convincing than theories. Here are the statistics of paupers in Yankee almshouses. In the three Prohibition States of Maine, Kansas and North Dakota the figures are respectively 163, 52, and 50 per 100,000 of population; in the three non-Prohibition States of Minnesota, South Dakota, and Nebraska, 43, 37 and 28. On the other side of the Atlantic it is evidently unnecessary to quote the Scriptural injunction: "Let him drink and forget his poverty, and remember his misery no more."

Magistrates in a Fix.

As we have often pointed out, the exercise of prosecuting powers under the Education Act are not infrequently a grave oppression of the poor. A few days ago the Hartismere Petty Sessional magistrates had before them the case of an Oakley labourer prosecuted for not sending his child to school. His wages were 13s. a week, he had a family of nine, and he had "kept the child at home to look after his wife, who had since died." "The case is a very sad one," commented the Chairman, Sir Thomas Tacon, "and places the magistrates in a difficulty." As they could not order the heinous defendant to be hanged by the neck until he was dead, or sentence him to penal servitude for life, or make him a member of Parliament at £400 a year, they wisely decided to let him off for two months "to see how the child attended." "The man has my sympathy," commented the Attendance Officer. "But an ounce of help is worth a ton of sympathy. Why, in such a case, should he drag a man into court at all? Surely there are occasions when he can look at things with a blind eye?

A Blushing Bobby.

The people of Liverpool will in future enjoy the services of a "policewoman," whose appointment is the first of its kind to be recorded in this country. The lady chosen has had wide experience of criminal work as matron of a local penitentiary, and is believed to be fitted in every way for the delicate duties she will shortly assume. "Her principal work," says the Chief Constable, "will be the investigation of cases in which women and girls are concerned. She will not be sworn in as a member of the Force, and will not therefore be called upon to make arrests. She will make inquiries into these delicate cases and examine witnesses." This lucid statement has served to clear the air, and it certainly seems that there is a woman's work to be done along the lines indicated. In approaching the problem, however, the good lady must remember that an ounce of prevention is worth a cartload of cure.

A Dubious System.

We learn that a convict at Princetown was recently sentenced by the visiting justices to thirty-six strokes with the birch rod, and to certain minor punishments, for kicking a medical officer and assaulting two warders. In the absence of details we have no means of gauging the enormity of the man's offence, but the savagery of the sentence imposed is calculated to excite grave misgiving. The stern discipline of penal institutions must, of course, be maintained, but the mode of its enforcement is worthy of closer scrutiny than it has hitherto attained. Once inside a convict prison, a man is wholly bereft of civil rights, and liable apparently to the most brutal punishments at the hands of a secret inquisition. A panel of county justices, selected at random, are about the last persons in the world who should be armed with such arbitrary and excessive powers.

Official, 1st April, '14.

A circular issued from the Emigrants' Information Office, 34, Broadway, Westminster, S.W., signed "T. C. Macnaghten, Chairman," and dated 1st April, states that "Female servants are wanted in Canada, both in towns and on farms; but new arrivals will have more difficulty than usual in getting places, partly because many employers are reducing servants owing to the hard times, and partly because wives are seeking housework to support unemployed husbands." It is obvious that, as these admissions occur in an official circular, they do not err on the side of over-statement. They are an up-to-date confirmation of all we have said from time to time about Canadian emigration.

Result of Our Eighteenth Football Forecast. See page 5.

Wisdom Wanted.

The dispute in the London building trade affords little promise of early settlement. We have already expressed our opinion that, in endeavouring to extract from trade unionists a general agreement to work with non-union men, the masters were assuming a position which could not, at this time of day, be successfully maintained. Our view was apparently shared by a section of the Master Builders' Association, nearly forty of whose members declined to present any such ultimatum to their men. With an unhappy want of discrimination, the Strike Committee have now determined to "call out" every man in the trade, without regard to the attitude of his immediate employer. It is hard to see how this action can be expected to help matters, and we fear it may materially lessen the chances of settlement. With both sides more or less in the wrong, there would appear to be scope for external counsel. Where is Sir George Askwith?

A Wee Wanderer.

Under a clause of the Children Act an infant two years old was charged, at the South Western Police Court, with having been "found wandering in the Clapham High Street." From the evidence of the police, it appeared that the mite had been accompanied by its mother, who was said to be earning eight shillings a week. In these circumstances, Mr. Lister Drummond failed to discern the germ of an "offence," and the officer who had seen fit to "arrest" the wanderer was quite unable to help him. There was clearly no evidence of destitution, and the condition of the baby was such as to negative any suggestion of neglect. Quite properly, the Magistrate declined to commit the little one to the workhouse, or, indeed, to make any other order which would rob the mother of her child. His Worship appears to have been somewhat mystified by the unusual nature of the proceedings. He has perhaps not yet appreciated the full beauty of the "Children's Charter."

An Inconsistent Bishop.

On Good Friday the Bishop of London delivered an address in St. Paul's Cathedral, in the course of which he said: "If people were not blinded by party spirit, it would be far easier to settle great political issues. If Ulstermen were *absolutely just* to Nationalists, without taking any side or saying which is right, there would be a far easier and better chance of a righteous and lasting peace." Fair words; but we are reminded that only a few days before the Bishop was busy in the House of Lords conducting his precious Sunday Closing Bill, which, in the unlikely event of its becoming law, will compel a pedestrian to walk six miles before he is entitled to a drink, thereby placing him in an unfair position compared with that of the motorist, to whom six miles is nothing. The Bishop should not preach "justness" until he has himself learned to be just.

A Horrible Epistle.

A reader of our paper at Openshaw sends us a postcard he has received from a disgruntled neighbour in regard to the vociferous behaviour of his dog. This is the same: "Sir, I warn you People are complaining to perlice about your yapping dog and no rest on Sundays or any other days and crulty for Want of food and Warm shelter and a Hard cocker nut head to Stand it yours is but be aware yours a Working Man." Of course it is possible, and even probable, that the man has a more or less substantial grievance concerning the animal in question. Probably his heat has merely run away with his education.

RHYMES OF THE TIMES.

THE WORD'S THE THING.

If you a play would write to-day
Intended to succeed,
Take my advice, don't be too "nice,"
Adopt the Shavian creed.
Muse well upon "Pygmalion,"
And summon to your aid,
The manner raw of Bernard Shaw,
And call a spade a spade.

One character did cause a stir
Upon the opening night,
By being bent on giving vent
To words most impolite:
For when outslips from dainty lips
A naughty word like "blast,"
Though it offend, you may depend
That play is going to last.

If you've the pluck to try your luck
By going farther still,
Don't scorn the use of foul abuse—
The audience like a thrill.
Although the word from woman heard
Turns men and maidens ruddy,
'Twill prove a draw (see Bernard Shaw)
If you can drag in —— [All right—Ed.]

THE WEEK'S "BISCUIT."

[*"Taking the Biscuit" has become a classic phrase, expressive of a satirical compliment. Below we present, each week and in all good humour, the "Biscuit" to the individual or periodical named, in respect of the achievement or utterance indicated.*]

For stating that: "A *fox* hunt took place on the hills in the district (Kirkmichael). There were 16 *guns*, and M'Donald, Balvarran. Only one other fox was seen."

THE PEOPLE'S JOURNAL

Takes the Biscuit.

RESULT OF OUR EIGHTEENTH FOOTBALL COMPETITION.

Two competitors share the £150 Prize, having sent in coupons containing only 3 errors. Each receives £75. The winners are:—

A. L. ROSSER,
Brynamlwg, near Neath,

and

JOHN JOS. BARBER,
1, China Walk, Lambeth Road, London, S.E.

The £50 Consolation Prize is divided between the following nine competitors, who sent in coupons showing only 4 errors. Each receives £5 11s. 2d.:—

Bucos, Mrs. J., 6, Green Lane, Oakworth, Keighley, Yorks.
Emslie, Mrs., 18, Pilot Square, Footdee, Aberdeen, N.B.
Harris, A. J., 16, Lamerton Terrace, Bideford, Devon.
Jenkins, R., 19, Rhiw Terrace, Crumlin, Mon.
Jones, Owen, Penybryn, Bethania Road, Cross Hands, near Llanelly, S. Wales.
Lappin, P., 4, Church Street, Partick, Scotland.
Morton, Henry, 20, Acton Lane, Harlesden, London, N.W.
Secreton, G. W., 210a, Tufnell Park Road, London, N.
Woods, Mrs., 66, Sincil Bank, Lincoln.

The £50 Mauve Coupon ("Mary Bull") Prize is divided between the following eleven competitors, who receive £4 11s. 0d. each. Their coupons showed 5 errors:—

Broadfoot, Mrs. E., 14, Sefton Road, New Brighton, Cheshire.
Gooding, Mrs. A., 30, Wolsey Road, Mildmay Park, London, N.
Griffin, Mrs., 74, Horsley Road, Great Bridge, S. Staffs.
Meades, Mrs. V., 85, Oxford Road, Southsea, Hants.
Morgan, Mrs., 84, Heald Avenue, Rusholme, Manchester.
Neill, Jeannie, 7, Johnstone Terrace, Edinburgh, N.B.
Pica, A. J. M., 169, Beaumont Road, Plymouth.
Shepherd, D., 84, Tudor Gardens, Barnes, S.W.
Stewart, Mrs. R., Fountain Road, Bridge of Allan, N.B.
Twigg, Mrs. A. G., 40a, Danehurst Street, Fulham, S.W.
Whittle, L., Shand Street, Bradford, Manchester.

Now for Cricket! £1,000 for a Forecast. £200 Must be Won. See page 29.

THAT NAUGHTY WORD!

WHAT WILL STIGGINS SAY?—WHERE IS THE CENSOR?

G. B. Shaw—God Bless Shaw! He has given us something to talk about. Something much more interesting than Home Rule, or Welsh Disestablishment, or even the Land question. Is it naughty to swear? Or, rather, is it wrong for the author of a play, when portraying national character, to take note of our national habit of emphasising our views by the aid of an expletive? "*That* is the question," as Shakespeare, the great classical swearer, once observed. It is all about that terrible word—which, Heaven forbid, should ever escape our pen—which Mrs. Patrick Campbell interposes between "not" and "likely." It is an essentially insular expression; you hear it everywhere in England. We cannot say that we have heard it in Church—at any rate, in its colloquial sense—but in the Smoking Rooms, and on the Terrace of the House of Commons it is a commonplace. And we have heard it both at the entrance to and during the pilgrimage through the Lobbies—usually when a loyal Party man wants to know what the division is about. And it will be remembered that in "John Bull and his Island," Max O'Rell calls attention to the frequent use of this word. He says you may often over-hear a butcher's assistant saying to his pal, "I told my —G. B. S.—master that he was only giving me twenty-five—G. B. S.—shillings every—G. B. S.—week, and that I wanted five—G. B. S.—shillings more, and he replied that he hadn't got the—G. B. S.—time to listen to my—G. B. S.—complaints." We do not deny the charge; indeed, we have even heard a double-barrelled expletive in such circumstances. But we defy Mr. Shaw to dramatise it! But why confine it to butchers? What about bakers and candlestick makers?

The Bards and the Word.

There is some doubt as to the origin of the expression —the exact nature of which, so far, we have been careful not to disclose!—but there is no question that, at one time it implied energy, vitality, full-bloodedness —very much as the word "pluck," which literally means the liver and intestines, came to signify courage. Shakespeare often uses it in its classical sense—in which, alone, would we dare quote it—as where he describes Richard III as "proud, subtle, sly and bloody," which, by the way, is a—*very*—fine line! And here we have him again—in "The Tempest"—with more classical swearing: "I have begun to have bloody thoughts." Who has not, by the way?

Leaving the Immortal, let us turn to some of the minor writers. We find Swift, in his *Journal to Stella*, saying, "It was bloody hot walking to-day," whilst Etheridge and Dryden both use the phrase "bloody drunk." Returning to Swift, there is a characteristic satire in his "Swearers' Bank" on the profanity of the day. "It is computed," he says, "that there are 2,000,000 in this kingdom (Ireland), of which numbers there may be said to be a million of swearing souls. It is thought that there may be 5,000 gentlemen, each with one oath a day, at a shilling each, yielding an annual revenue of £91,250." By the way, the rank of gentleman seems to have been taken generally as the standard of correct swearing, for under an Act of George II a "day labourer, common soldier, sailor or seaman" forfeited a shilling per oath; "every other person, *under the degree of a gentleman*," two shillings; every person "above the degree of a gentleman," 5s.—with double and treble penalties for repeated offences. But, strangely enough, the Act did not apply to women—although, under various modern Police enactments, they are no longer immune, provided the naughty words be uttered in a public place.

The History of Swearing.

As we have said, the origin of the word is veiled in mystery. Maybe, it is lost in antiquity. The most generally accepted view is that it is a contraction of the old Catholic invocation—"By Our Lady." But we are not prepared to accept the apology of Cardinal Newman, that the habit of adjuration was due to the fact that the Catholic population has a greater insight into the unseen world than the Protestant. How either could have any "insight" into the "unseen" is, indeed, one of those theological subtleties too deep for the lay mind. Says the great prelate: "The Catholic's very jesting, and his very oaths, has been overruled to create in him a habit of faith, girding round and protecting the supernatural principle!" There is the other theory, that the word arose from the habit of associating drunkenness and other follies with what were, and are still, called "bloods"—e.g., "drunk as a lord." That, at any rate, is the view of the Rev. Dr. Brewer; and it is supported by Chambers. Our own idea is that the expletive is half secular and half ecclesiastic in origin, and is the last survivor of the many forms of oath which preceded it. Bob Acres prophesied that "'damns' have had their day"—and there is no doubt that they have become feminine. How ladies used to swear we have no idea, although it is notorious that Queen Elizabeth—"good Queen Bess," famous for the large number of rooms she slept in—was a mistress of the art; other famous swearers being James I, Lord Thurlow, Picton and Lord Melbourne. We have no authentic record of their exact swear-words, but it may be taken that they were stronger than those of the Greeks and Romans. Old Pythagoras, for instance, is said to have sworn by the figure 4; Zeno by the caper; Socrates by the dog, whilst others called on birds. In later times, of course, we had "Zounds," His wounds; "'Scush," His curse, and a variety of similar abbreviations. The advantage of the theological vocabulary is illustrated in Scott's story of the swearing bout between a skipper and a broken-down minister—who swore his antagonist dumb! But the Puritan period saw repressive legislation. In 1623 a Bill was passed to "stamp out swearing"; whilst Cromwell proudly declared of his Ironsides, "not a man swears but pays his twelvepence." About the same time, by the way—and this should interest Mr. Shaw—*all swearing in plays was forbidden*. Ben Jonson narrowly escaped a £10 penalty, but Shirley's "The Young Admiral" (1633) was commended as quite "free from oaths."

That old English worthy, Robert Burton—the author of the lugubrious "Anatomy of Melancholy," which no one now reads—is thus quaintly spoken of by Bishop Kennett: "In an interval of Vapours he would be extremely pleasant, and raise Laughter in any Company. Yet I have heard that nothing at last could make him laugh, but going down to the Bridge-foot at Oxford, and hearing the Barge-men scold and storm and swear at one another, at which he would set his Hands to his Sides, and laugh most profusely." Swearing has its good points after all!

Altogether, the subject is a fascinating one—a *very* fascinating one. But here for the moment ends the First Lesson—in Swearing.

FOUL TYRANNY.

MIDLAND TEACHER'S GRIEVOUS WRONG.

On April 30th, 1913, Mr. W. H. Turner, was appointed Headmaster of the National School at Barford, Warwickshire, being selected from among a hundred applicants in virtue of his high character and excellent professional record. The village is one in which great influence is wielded by the local "gentry" and by the Rector, who virtually control the fortunes of the National School. Mr. Turner's work was thus by no means free from difficulty, but he none the less attained a gratifying measure of success, his efforts being highly commended by his Majesty's Inspector of Schools.

All went well till September of last year, when the schoolmaster received an unexpected summons to the Rectory. There he was informed, to his utter bewilderment, that "a serious charge" had been preferred against him and that he "had better resign." With a deplorable want of candour the Rector declined to furnish Mr. Turner with particulars of his alleged offence. He was merely informed that it was of a "very serious character," and that failing his immediate resignation it would be fully discussed by the Managers at their next meeting. With this cowardly ultimatum he was brusquely shown the door.

At the Managers' meeting, presided over by the Rector, Mr. Turner was confronted with a medley of accusations. He was charged :—

> That too much time was given to a historical pageant, and that children were taken out of school for the purpose of rehearsals.
>
> That he was absent from school on July 16th without permission.
>
> That he had frequently been seen drinking in public houses.
>
> That he was under the influence of drink on Saturday, August 23rd.
>
> That his religious teaching upset the religious beliefs of the children.

It will be noted that only one of these charges, the fourth, was of a serious and definite character, and with that we propose to deal. It meant, if it meant anything, that on a day when the school was closed, the Headmaster was seen drunk in a public place. In the case of a schoolmaster such an offence would merit severe censure, and it will thus be well to examine the evidence. There was a person in the village with whom Mr. Turner was upon notoriously bad terms. The grounds of their disagreement involved no serious reproach to either. On the day of the alleged drunkenness there had been an open rupture between them. It was this man who brought the charge against Mr. Turner and the accusation was supported by a labourer in his service. Apart from the story of these two men, there was no shadow of reproach against the master. Perhaps realising this and desiring to protect themselves and their informants from legal liability, the Managers executed a peculiarly mean shuffle. We take the following extract from the minutes of the meeting, a copy of which is in our possession :—

> The Managers having examined the complaints of two men that he was under the influence of drink on Saturday, August 23rd, are not satisfied with Mr. Turner's explanation. At the same time they wish to record that no charge of actual drunkenness has been made.

No man with an ounce of spirit would have been content with this despicable evasion. Mr. Turner rightly determined to press for a full inquiry. Communicating his intentions to the Rector, he received a reply which for arrogant impertinence would be hard to beat. A single quotation will indicate its tenour :

> As the Managers have taken no action beyond a severe censure, it is not necessary to re-open the matter. Unless some further complication arises there is no reason why you should not regain your lost prestige.

The end was near. There were ominous hobnobbings among the local magnates. The dirty work begun at the Rectory was soon completed. At a Managers' meeting held on September 30th the following resolution was passed :—

> That, subject to the consent of the Education Authority, three months' notice be given to Mr. Turner to quit his appointment as Head Teacher in Barford School.

Was there ever a more execrable piece of tyranny? Where is the National Union of Teachers?

MAGIC MUSKA.

THE SNATCHERS ON THE BOUNCE.

Among the latest preparations for heightening the brilliance of "woman's crowning glory" is Muska, manufactured and sold by the Muska Proprietary Company, and advertised broadcast in the London and provincial Press. Muska will grow hair on the proverbial billiard ball and, in short, do anything except "wash clothes." Mark this :—

> Don't waste time trying samples. No one ever made their hair grow with a little sample. You must have the full treatment. We send you a full size 4s. 6d. 10 ounce bottle of Muska for 1s., and you pay the balance as your hair grows. If it does not make your hair grow you have no more to pay. Is not this honest? Is not this genuine? Does it not prove to you that we know that Muska will make your hair grow?

It at least proves to us that the proprietors of Muska are no chickens at this kind of game, and that they possess a lively sense of the value of "swank." Of the honesty of the device let our readers judge. A Middlesbrough lady sent a shilling in September, and in due course received a large bottle of the "tonic." Sad to relate, it utterly failed to justify the glowing promise of the advertisement. A fortnight's thorough trial revealed no perceptible improvement in the condition of the hair. All was as it had been before, and as though Muska had never existed. Having regard to the express conditions of the offer quoted above, the good lady recognised no further obligations to the firm. She made no move, and has now received the following notice from the West End Debt Collecting Agency, 58, New Bond Street, W. :—

> The Muska Proprietary Company have placed in our hands the collection of an account of 3s. 6d. owing by you to them for goods supplied on your instructions. We enclose an addressed envelope, and would ask you to remit the sum mentioned within seven days from date, returning this form at the same time. By so doing you will save yourself the further trouble and expense that its collection will otherwise involve.

In the present instance this impudent piece of bluff will fail. The lady will reply that, having tried Muska for a fortnight and received no benefit, she proposes to rely upon the terms of the advertisement. If the Company value such reputation for honesty as they claim, they will at once accept the situation and refrain from further pressure.

A RIGHTED WRONG.

OUR HAPPY INTERVENTION.

In our issue of March 14th we referred at some length to the case of George Miles, a former inmate of the Herefordshire District Boys' Home, a certified Industrial School, who, having been licensed to labour upon a Welsh farm, had been cruelly refused permission to visit his dying father. We insisted that, as the lad had passed his eighteenth birthday, his detention was wholly without warrant, and suggested that he was probably restrained by some fancied sense of legal bondage. From information since to hand, it is clear that our conjecture was but too well founded. This journal has, however, attained a wide vogue among Industrial School authorities, and the publication of our article was immediately followed by the active intervention of the Superintendent of the Herefordshire school. We now learn from the boy's sister that her brother has since been permitted to visit his father, so that the dying man's oft-expressed wish is at length gratified. The news of the lad's homecoming was scarcely credited by the sister, who before her appeal to us had vainly begged him to return, if only for a day. She writes .—

> You may guess how pleased I was. I read his card over and over again to make sure I had read it right. You may be sure I hurried with my work to get away to meet my dear brother. What a meeting, and I have you all to thank for it.

We are happy to have been instrumental towards a reunion so full of joy, albeit upon sad occasion. The lad has now returned to his farm drudgery, where for five shillings and his keep he must toil from dawn to dusk. The hardship of his lot may perhaps be mitigated by the consciousness that he is no longer an indentured bondslave. At the age of eighteen he is a free man—and the world is wide.

Thousands Delighted with the "John Bull" Pen. Get Yours NOW.

A GATHERING STORM.

SOUTH AFRICA'S "ULSTER" PROBLEM.

A clause of the Act of Union empowers the South African Government to annex neighbouring Protectorates upon easy terms, and the absorption of Rhodesia has already been freely mooted. General Botha is visibly enamoured of the project, and it is not unlikely that it may soon emerge as an issue of urgent importance. The executive government of the province is at present in the hands of the British South Africa Company, whose Charter will shortly expire. Apart from the Company's Board of Control, there is a Legislative Council, a minority of whose members are elected by a popular vote. Only to this slight extent does the province enjoy representative government, and it is argued that the time is ripe for its inclusion in the Union, where its denizens might at length attain full citizen rights.

Fierce Resentment.

On the face of it there is much to commend this plea, which is none the less fiercely resented by British settlers in Rhodesia. At the recent elections to the Legislative Council, the British vote went solidly against the policy of inclusion and in favour of a new lease of power for the Chartered Company. It is not that the present system of government is held to be incapable of improvement. The defects of the Company's administration are patent to all observers. The average British loyalist, however, has no desire to leap from the frying-pan into the fire. His point of view is pithily stated by the *Rhodesia Herald* :—

> Like the observant Silas Wegg, we can on occasion take "a powerful sight of notice," and a careful study of the recent trend of events in the South has confirmed a great majority of Rhodesians in their determination to stop outside until they can read the future of the Union much more clearly than they can to-day.

Ulster Again.

The case of Rhodesia presents parallel features to that of Ulster. British settlers in the province have no faith in the efficacy of "home rule" to allay racial hatred and to bring about a "union of hearts." They deeply mistrust Botha, and doubt the beneficence of his intentions. They would rather be governed autocratically by a British company than by a Boer junta with democratic forms. Their feelings run deeper than may yet have been realised either at Pretoria or at home. The following extract from a letter addressed to us is typical of much that has been said and written in Rhodesia in the course of the elections:—

> It will be hard luck if this good country is eventually swamped by the Dutch as the Union has been. It makes one pretty sick to think of the thousands of British lives so willingly given for the taking over of the Orange Free State and the Transvaal; lives wasted as far as their fellow-countrymen are concerned. The Union has ceased to be a British Dominion.

A similar note of pessimism has been sounded from one end of the province to the other. Like convictions, held in all sincerity, have inspired the British population with a resolve to resist annexation to the limits of their power.

And what of the Dutch? General Botha has already declared openly for annexation. There is a growing Boer population in Rhodesia, the Dutch language being widely taught in the schools of the province. These exiled patriots are in close correspondence with leaders of opinion in the political life of the Union. The Government is insistently urged along the path of annexation. Rôles are strangely reversed. The Boers of Rhodesia are "uitlanders" under a British *régime*. They are "trekking" into the province faster than Britishers. Soon there will be a Boer majority. And then?

Danger!

One thing is certain. The British population never will submit peacefully to annexation. They will refuse to recognise the divine right of a Boer majority. Many of them have fought before and most are ready to fight again. Botha will find a further use for his docile burghers who, with an eye to contingencies, have been permitted to keep their rifles. Scope there will be and plenty for martial law and the "iron hand." The portents are unmistakable, and there remains but one loophole of escape. An Imperial Government worthy of the name would proclaim Rhodesia a Crown Colony and abide by the consequences. It is the only way.

ROAD HOGS OF THE NIGHT.

THE MYSTERY OF A PHANTOM CAR.

Two men—drunk or sober, drivers of a motor car which knocked down two cyclists in Baring Road, Lee, at midnight on Saturday, April 11th, killing a man and injuring his companion, a woman—are wanted to explain matters to the police. They were on the wrong side of the road, the cowards did not stop to render what aid was possible to those they had knocked down, but disappeared into the darkness, and at the time of writing have not been found. They are in hiding. They know well enough that a hue and cry has been raised after them throughout London. They know an inquest has been held on one of their victims. Other people, friends or relatives, probably also know, and could, if they would, give all the information needed to bring them to book. Evidently, however, mum's the word. There is a conspiracy of silence between the drivers of the Mystery Car and people who know them well. Despite all this, we hope that sooner or later—sooner than later—the car will be tracked to its garage and the cowardly road hogs who were in it compelled to explain.

Even so, the evidence against them is slight. The lady cyclist, who fortunately escaped death, says the car was on the wrong side of the road and that the crimson reflectors behind the machines of herself and her companion must have been visible to those in it; but the two men are practically at liberty to concoct any story they please. They may say the cycles were on the wrong side of the road and the car on its proper side. If they were as drunk as Bacchus, they may say they were as sober as a judge. As for the car, the police are looking for a Unic, but it may be any other. Even if a casual wayfarer had seen the car after the accident, the chances are that he would not have been able to identify it.

The wonder is that such occurrences, having regard to the fearful speed at which motor-cars, motor-'buses, and taxis are driven by their pace-mad chauffeurs in the late hours of the night, are not more numerous. In a thousand streets in London their drivers could knock down and kill people in the darkness and get away with small risk of discovery; and the truth is that when fatalities of the kind do happen at night investigation of the circumstances is, as a rule, only made possible by the fact that there is commonly sufficient humanity in the skin of the average motorist to induce him to stop and render whatever assistance is possible after the event. The apathy of the Commissioner of Police in this matter of motor-car, motor-'bus, and even tramcar pace in London suburban thoroughfares round about midnight goes to show that he is unaware of it, and of the terror it inspires in home-going pedestrians, occupants of light horse-driven vehicles, and bicycle riders. It is time the police had instructions to mark down the night road hogs.

SAVAGE SENTENCES.

ANOTHER INJUSTICE TO—MEN!

This is the story, told, under the heading of "Stiff Sentences for Window Breakers," by the *Hampshire Advertiser* :—

> Admitting an offence of window smashing at Farnborough, David Llewellyn Richards, 19, a soldier with a good character, received 12 months' hard labour, with a reminder that future offences would be more severely dealt with. To similar offences at Aldershot, Hugh Donovan, 19, soldier, pleaded guilty, and also received 12 months' hard labour.

Our contemporary may call these stiff sentences, as it pleases; we take leave to call them savage, and the Chairman of Quarter Sessions who inflicted them, a brute. In addition to serving twelve months in prison for what was probably little more than fools' play, these lads will lose their pay as well as their characters, and will be labelled gaolbirds all their lives. The Chairman would not care to have such a sentence for such an offence passed on a son of his own, say, a lad at Oxford or Sandhurst, who had been having a crazy night out also. The sentences are a much worse crime of the magistrate than the foolhardy smashing of a window is in the boys, and our hope is that the Home Secretary will at once let them out of gaol.

Don't miss the Pen Coupon—On page iii of cover.

BASTARDY NO BAR.

A STRAIGHT TIP FROM THE LAW LORDS.

In cases of fatal injury to employees, there has been a disposition to narrow the application of the term "dependent" so as to confine the benefits of the Workmen's Compensation Act within certain recognised degrees of relationship. Thus, when the Tredegar County Court Judge issued an award in favour of an illegitimate child whose putative father had been killed in a colliery accident, his decision was set aside by the Court of Appeal at the instance of the employers. Means were, however, found to carry the matter to the House of Lords, where a far-reaching judgment was recently delivered.

In the course of argument it had transpired that the child was born after the man's death, but that he had publicly stated his intention of marrying the mother and thus assuming responsibility for its maintenance. Had the father lived the infant would doubtless have been legitimately born, and it is clear from their judgments that due weight was attached to this circumstance by the Lords of Appeal. It was, however, upon wider grounds that they unanimously determined to restore the award of the County Court Judge. Lord Loreburn spoke of "the moral duty of a father to maintain his illegitimate child" as an element "in proof of dependency," while Lord Shaw of Dunfermline, in acceding to the judgment of his brethren, employed terms which in circumstances of similar import will afford valuable guidance to judges of County Courts. His Lordship observed:—

> I humbly think that what the Statute meant was to include all children of the workman, whether legitimate or illegitimate, within the category of possible dependents . . . The Statute in my view has said that the workman's family and his illegitimate children shall be within the category of possible dependents.

Apart from the moral obligation mentioned by Lord Loreburn, there is a duty upon a father, enforceable at law, partially to maintain his illegitimate child, and it will thus be felt that the explicit judgment of Lord Shaw embodies the common-sense as well as the equity of the situation. Tacitly approved by his distinguished colleagues, it will doubtless acquire the force of law.

Curiously enough, a case of converse interest has recently been brought to our notice. A father was journeying upon the North Eastern Railway from Greenock to Hull, with his soldier son, from whom he received a regular allowance. As the train neared Hexham, the door flew open and the lad fell from the carriage, sustaining fatal injuries. Upon legal advice the father has sought to recover damages from the Railway Company, but it seems that his son was not born in lawful wedlock, and he has now been informed that, upon this ground, his claim must fail!

A MOUTHY MAGISTRATE.

WHEN A WISE MAN IS SILENT.

Whoever was the Chairman of the Glamorgan Quarter Sessions when a labourer, named Baldwin, was indicted for stealing a heifer, ought to know when to keep his tongue still, though he evidently doesn't. "The jury," says the reporter, "found the prisoner not guilty, and he was discharged, the Chairman saying he was a lucky man, and the jury knew less about him than he (the Chairman) did." Probably they did, but, like the flowers that bloom in the spring, tra-la, it had nothing to do with the case, and it did not justify the Chairman saying that Baldwin was a lucky man When a man is acquitted under English law he is innocent, not lucky. We can well imagine the indignant consternation of the Chairman if, on his indictment and acquittal of an offence charged against him, we said he was a lucky man. Assuredly we should not do so, for the innuendo is a libel as to which there is no hope of successful defence. It does not follow that because a man has been convicted of hitting his wife with half-a-brick he is guilty of stealing a heifer, and if he isn't guilty, how can he be lucky in being declared not guilty? The next time the gentleman acts as Chairman of Glamorgan Sessions and the jury acquit anybody, we advise him to keep his tongue between his teeth.

CASTLES IN THE CLOUDS.

"AIRY NOTHINGS" WITHOUT HABITATION OR NAME.

Public performers in the North of England seem to have been honoured by being selected for the attentions of Mr. S. Rukin, "Head of the Rukin Flying Machine Works, North Wales," they having received this handbill:—

TAKE YOUR SHARES NOW.

Do you wish to become a shareholder of one of the largest Flying Machine Works in the World when erected? If you do, you can become a Shareholder for the nominal sum of One Shilling. Of course you can have as many Shares as you desire, more Shares, more interest for you. The Flying Machine has come to stay, and when the Works are erected I guarantee to pay the Greatest Interest ever yet known. I can confidently say this because there is only one Head of the Firm, so you see there is not two or three dozen Directors to take their share out of the profits before you get yours, and that is the reason I can pay you interest on such a small sum as One Shilling.

Just send One Shilling for a Share, and you will never regret it. The Flying Machine Works will employ thousands of hands, and you will receive your interest each year. Any Shareholder who is not satisfied can have his amount of Shares returned in hard cash, so what could be fairer than that.

All you have to do is to fill in your Name and Address at the bottom of this sheet, and enclose in an envelope together with as many Shilling Postal Orders as you desire Shares, seal it up and post to Mr. S. RUKIN, c/o General Post Office, Birmingham. You will receive your Share Tickets by next Post.

We do not know whether to regard the reticent Rukin as a knave or a fool. The absence of his own address, the whereabouts of the place where the mammoth works are to be erected, and any particulars justifying him in appealing to the public to subscribe for shares, suggest the former: while the gross infringement of the Companies Acts entailed by the publication of this unregistered and bungling prospectus would seem to indicate an unbalanced mind. Possibly, however, it is really an attempt to see how many April fools there are in the country!

DOG AND DRUMMER.

A BRINDLE BITCH AND BATTALION BAND.

We are not surprised to hear that a brindle bitch took great exception to the drum and fife band belonging to a cadet corps a few days ago. Had she simply protested by way of a howl, most peaceful citizens would have sympathised with her, but, like many others of her sex, she is a militant. She made for the big drummer's calves and bit them—the sequel being that Edward Welch was fined £2 for failing to keep a dangerous dog under proper control and, in addition, was ordered to pay the big drummer £3 costs, the alternative being a month's imprisonment. Welch is only a working man, and had no money to satisfy the fine. He, therefore, went to prison, but after serving four days' a sympathiser paid, and he was released. The following letter had been sent to the Magistrate by Messrs. Day and Co., Estate Agents, 42, Great Castle-street, W.:—

> Mr. Edward Welch, of 231, Arlington Road, Camden Town, has applied to us with regard to a summons he has received for keeping a brindle bitch without a licence The facts are as follows—the dog was the property of an Italian, Vittorio Bruno, a tenant under our collection He left England for Italy, and his wife took the dog with her to a flat, where the landlord complained there was no suitable accommodation The dog was, at our suggestion, taken care of by Mr and Mrs. Welch until a purchaser was found. We understand that it has been sold to a German, but whose name and address we do not know By good fortune the old licence was found, partially destroyed, in a wastepaper basket and will be produced to you We trust that this explanation will satisfy the requirements

Perhaps it would have been better had Messrs. Day and Co. attended Court and paid the fine, poor Welch's trouble having been indirectly due to their unfortunate—for him—suggestion. They could probably have obtained repayment of the amount from Mr. Bruno.

Bank Notes to be Won! See "Bullets" Special Holiday Prizes—page 34.

BLANKETS AND BLUFF.

A GAME THAT WON'T PAY.

At the beginning of last winter Mr. A. Cruickshank, of 46, Chiswick Lane, Chiswick, received a visit from his brother, a medical man. The weather was chilly and their talk turned upon blankets, rugs, and similar seasonable comforts. Fresh from his home in Scotland, and speaking with no small measure of hygienic authority, the doctor highly commended the products of Messrs. W. Grant and Son, of Kingussie, N.B. So impressed was Mr. Cruickshank with his brother's glowing testimony, that in a few days he dispatched a substantial order to the Scottish firm. The goods, to the value of twelve pounds, came to hand in due course. Payment seems to have hung fire, and towards the end of January Messrs. Grant and Son appear to have become anxious. Of the justice of their suspicions we can form no opinion. We only know that after inquiry and deliberation the firm thought fit to address the defaulter in the following terms:—

> Dear Sir,—We have now made inquiries regarding you and have also called on your brother at ——, who has given me to understand you are living on his good name. We give you one more chance for the sake of your brother to either return the goods or cash, otherwise we will have you arrested as you ordered the goods on false pretences.

This was obviously a nasty pill for Mr. Cruickshank, and it is not surprising that he should at once have repaired in high dudgeon to his legal adviser. In the course of post Mr. Grant received this Roland for his Oliver:—

> Sirs,—My client, Mr. A. Cruickshank, has received your letter of the 28th inst. and has handed same to me. Having regard to the libellous statement contained therein and the threat of a prosecution in the event of your not receiving either the money or the goods, my client absolutely declines to make you any payment whatever, or to return the goods. You are liable yourselves to be criminally prosecuted for endeavouring to compound an alleged felony, and my client will prosecute you should you come within the jurisdiction of the English Courts.

There is a Machiavellian ingenuity about this epistle which compels our unregenerate admiration. The suggestion that Mr. Cruickshank should prosecute Mr. Grant for "endeavouring to compound a felony" *of his own alleged commission*, stamps the writer as a counsellor of signal resource. At his peril Mr. Grant will venture "within the jurisdiction of the English Courts." Should he have the temerity to do so, Mr. Cruickshank will at once lay the whole facts before a Bench of Justices and demand a summons against him. In view of the fact that he has twelve pounds' worth of Mr. Grant's blankets in his possession, for which, upon the flimsiest of pretexts, he has refused to pay, he should meet with a warm reception. Meanwhile, should he be brought, as is not unlikely, "within the jurisdiction of a Scottish Court," he may find that his lawyer's attempt to twist a demand for payment into the semblance of a criminal offence is none too favourably regarded by the powers that be.

"ON THE KNEE."

NEW SPIRITUAL SLAVERY OF THEOSOPHY.

We really cannot account for the change in Mrs. Annie Besant, at one time a disciple of freedom. As President of the Theosophical Society she has just issued a new form of oath, and the vow is *binding for life*. Here it is:—

> I pledge myself to support before the world the Theosophical Society and in particular to obey, without cavil or delay, the orders of the head of the esoteric section in all that concerns my relation with the Theosophical movement; to work with her, on the lines she shall lay down, in preparation for the coming of the World-Teacher, and to give what support I can to the Society in time, money, and work.

What would her old colleague in freedom of thought, Charles Bradlaugh, think—and say—were he in the flesh? Surely it is high time the Theosophical Society found its World-Teacher. We nominate Mr. Leadbeater, whom—despite his confession—Mrs. Besant still believes to be an injured Saint! Meanwhile, we are glad to see that the decent members of the Society are dissociating themselves from the "esoteric" section and its approval of pernicious practices.

A ONE-EYED DECISION.

PETTIFOGGING POLICE PROSECUTION.

Somewhat out of due season, the Brill (Oxon) Magistrates were recently occupied with a licensing charge arising out of a convivial Christmas party at the Star Inn, in the village of Long Crendon. Mr. Henry Bird, the landlord, was charged with selling liquor during prohibited hours, while a number of respectable villagers were summoned for "being found" upon the premises after closing time. At the outset of the proceedings, P.C. Mee, who was the principal witness for the prosecution, admitted knowledge of the landlord's intention of holding a private family party on the night of the 26th December. For the defendant it was contended that the proceedings complained of arose out of this friendly gathering, and in no way involved a contravention of the law.

The whole case against the landlord seems to have rested upon the fact that one or two members of his social party had purchased drink in his house before the legal hours of closing. It was suggested, in short, that the genial host had "turned customers into guests" at 10 o'clock. This contention was wholly unsupported, there being no vestige of evidence of the sale of liquor after the closing hour. It was clear, moreover, that every person found upon the premises at a late hour of the night had received an express invitation from the landlord to enjoy Christmas fare and drinks free of cost. In these circumstances the Bench had clearly no option but to discharge the landlord, and there was no excuse for the dubious observations with which the Chairman thought fit to accompany his formal acquittal. For some unexplained reason, three of the guests were selected for punishment, the rest going scot free. Of the unhappy trio, two had joined the landlord's party at the express invitation of his wife, while the third was a close friend of a resident guest at the inn and had been invited by the landlord at his request. Each of the three men was fined 14s., including costs.

Such travesties of justice in licensing affairs have been far too common of late, and they reflect small credit upon the authorities. In the case under notice, the police seem to have played a peculiarly mean-spirited part, and to have wantonly destroyed the amenities of a well-conducted and harmless social function, of which they had received due notice.

HORSE LAW.

A POINT FOR TRADERS.

A case of considerable interest to many classes of tradesmen was recently disposed of at the Cinque Ports Police Court, Margate. A milkman was summoned for "neglecting to have proper control over his horse and cart" at Broadstairs. The gravamen of the charge concerned the horse, which had apparently been left in control of the cart while its master delivered milk at the back-door of the Westfield Hotel. Frightened by a passing motor-cycle, the animal took fright, bolted down the street, and finally impaled itself upon the railings of another hostelry. Admitting that he had not chained the wheel of his cart before leaving it, the defendant was fined five shillings. The magistrates agreed to state a case for the consideration of a Divisional Court.

It is the common practice of tradesmen upon their rounds to leave their horses in this fashion, and the point thus raised is therefore of considerable moment. It is certain that but for the unfortunate circumstance of the horse's bolting, no action would have been taken in this instance. The police sergeant who reported the case notified it rather as an accident than as an offence. He admitted that he was not in the habit of interfering with the common practice of tradespeople in this respect, nor did he regard it as contrary to law. The matter is by no means free from difficulty, and the definition of "negligence" in this connection will doubtless be actively discussed in any further litigation which may ensue. It will probably be held that a delivering tradesman must take every reasonable precaution for the prevention of accident, and the whole matter may be resolved into a consideration of what may reasonably be expected of a driver in any given case.

You really must have a "John Bull" Pen. See Coupon on page iii of cover.

"John Bull" ART SCHOLARSHIPS

OPEN TO OUR READERS WITHOUT ENTRANCE FEE.

For Professional Course of Home Study Personally conducted by Famous London Artist.

THE Until-Proficient Course of Instruction in the most lucrative of the Applied Arts awarded at half-fees to the first 25 readers who pass a postal exam. If the Instruction fails to help Scholarship Winners to earn at least £10, they need not pay the balance of fee for their tuition.

What You Have to Do

is to copy with pen or pencil the sketches in the Test Paper which will be sent *gratis*.

Adjudicators:

CHAS. E. DAWSON, Esq. (Art Director of the Practical Correspondence College, late Art Editor *Nash's* "Magazine," contributor to the leading Art publications of England and America, and one of London's most successful Designers of Pictorial Publicity).

H CARGILL, Esq., Advertising Manager of "John Bull" and Odhams Ltd.

VINCENT LOCKWOOD, Esq., M.I.S.A.C. (Principal of the Practical Correspondence College and well-known Critic of Commercial Art and Literature).

The names of these gentlemen, whose decision will be final, absolutely guarantee the fairness of the test.

If you are fond of Sketching

read the following recent statements by famous Artists:

"If you can learn to write, you can learn to draw. Courage and Common Sense are more valuable than genius to those who would earn money by sketching. The demand for suitable sketches exceeds the supply, and as Artistic Advertising is still in its infancy in England the prospects for those who enter the field *now* are truly magnificent."

Another well-known artist declares that: "There are more openings for Black-and-White artists to-day in the newspaper world than ever. Almost every month sees the birth of some new journal, and almost every new journal requires illustrating. The Black-and-White artist, if he is a worker, would soon be earning from £300 to £500 a year."

What the picture cover is to the magazine so an attractive sketch is to an advertisement.

Magazine Drawings often display more cleverness than Academy Paintings, and the young men and women who have learned to design them earn more than Royal Academy exhibitors.

Never was the demand for sketches so great, never was it so easy for a trained artist to live in comfort.

Professional Course of Home Study conducted by Leading London Artist Awarded at Half Fee to first 25 readers who pass a Postal Exam. in Sketching.

Thousands of Pounds Daily.

Advertisers, in London alone, spend Thousands of Pounds Daily finding and buying the sketches they want—the kind of work this Course may train you to do. But—you must have the essential training.

You can Earn While you Learn.

Black-and-White Artists sell their work by post. By post, too, you can learn what you need to know of this new, well-paid profession—all that the Art-Schools and Text-books don't teach—how to make a living by Art—and if you win a "John Bull" Scholarship you will be helped to earn while you learn.

The Practical Correspondence College—the All-British Art School with the world-wide reputation—awards its Full Course of Instruction in Black-and-White at half-fees to the first 25 readers to pass a postal exam. Balance of fees only payable when you have earned Ten Pounds.

The College stakes 100 guineas upon the success of the 25 Scholarship holders—ample guarantee of conscientious and thorough training.

No Preliminary Training or Expenses necessary.

Awards made in the order in which competition sketches are received. Send stamped, self-addressed envelope for *gratis* particulars of the Course of Home Study in Black and White at the most liberal terms ever offered, and for the Test Paper.

Subjects Taught Include:

Drawing for reproduction, cover, and advertisement designs, lettering, perspective, line, wash and body colour sketches, splatter work, time and labour-saving devices, originating designs, establishing a connection, commercial correspondence, dealing with printers, publishers and advertisers, how, when and where to sell designs to the best advantage.

The exclusive and confidential lessons are lavishly and superbly illustrated. Students' exercises are criticised and difficulties explained away by personal correspondence.

If you can draw well enough to amuse your friends here is your opportunity to begin at once to learn to turn your Talents into Guineas. The Practical Correspondence College—the All-British School of Art, is world-famous for the money-earning value of its postal instruction, which is vouched for by JOHN BULL.

In ten years, the goodwill and success of its students have built it up from a small private concern to the Technical training Institution of National Importance it is to-day. JOHN BULL guarantees its integrity and the absolute efficiency of its Instruction.

Commercial Art offers unique advantages and rewards as a spare time hobby, or regular occupation, and this opportunity of being launched right into the profession may not occur again.

Correspondence should not be sent to the Editor, but to the Secretary, P.C.C., 12, Thanet House, Strand, W.C.

"JOHN BULL'S" WEEKLY CINEMA.

BULL-DOGGEREL RHYMES BY "THE BOW-WOW."

His Majesty to Paris goes;
His lieges all consent,
Because the simplest of them knows
'Twill strengthen the *entente*.

Although the Ulster party strive
To prove a horrid plot,
Asquith seems very much alive,
And not to care a jot.

"Salute the flag!" cries Uncle Sam,
"All right," says Mexico,
But doesn't really care a damn
Whether they do or no.

The Yankee golfers come to put
And, judging by the papers,
Compared with them the English are
Most amateurish capers

The language of the Tory press
Where Lloyd George is concerned,
Has taught us, we with pain confess,
More than we ever learned

When he confesses brotherhood
With pigs, we dare to say
'Tis but a waggish form of speech,
And quite *à la* "Tay Pay"

A TIP TO TRADERS.

THE MAGIC TABLET VANISHING TRICK.

A Nottingham shopkeeper has reason to regret a visit from a plausible traveller representing "The Magic Novelty Company of Houndsditch." He offered for sale "The marvellous magic tablets—The latest novelty of the 20th century—Endless amusement for young and old." It was stated that 1,000 picture postcards can be made by following the directions, which are: "Rub the tablet gently on plain post card or clean paper, and place over picture in recently printed paper, daily, weekly, or comic, and rub firmly with spoon or knife handle." With memories of childhood's days, we followed the instructions in the expectation of getting a really good result—to find, however, that the transfer produced was certainly no better than could be obtained without "magic" aid.

Our Nottingham correspondent tells us that he paid 28s. for seven cards of this rubbish, on the assurance that a certain Boston tradesman was selling £10 worth a month. Unfortunately he did not attempt to confirm this bold statement until after he had paid the money and the vociferous traveller had departed. When he did so he got a letter which read:—

> In answer to yours, we do not stock Magic Tablets. I know they are a bad selling line, and it is a great shame people are allowed to go about telling such lies to catch trade. They would be no use at any price to me

We fail to find in the London Post Office Directory any entry of such a firm as "The Magic Novelty Company," and we are afraid that the magic has been extended to the money, which has seemingly disappeared.

FINE FEATHERS.

(It has been suggested before a Royal Commission that policemen should proceed against ladies wearing feathers of rare birds.)

Fair Phyllis, winsome one and sweet,
Who loves to roam down Regent Street,
Take careful heed concerning that
Fine feather which adorns your hat.

If you would shirk the law's dread scowl,
Wear feathers from the barndoor fowl;
Soon it will not be safe, I've heard,
To wear those from a rarer bird.

Authority designs to spare
The scarcer cleavers of the air;
Their plumage on a hat or bonnet
Will be taboo, so do not don it.

Oh! Phyllis, sweet and winsome maid,
Watch how your headgear is arrayed,
Or some officious man in blue
May have the cheek to summon you.

Majestic, Robert, will you shine
When this new glory rôle is thine;
A feather from *her* hat ensures
Another feather placed in yours!

RICARDO.

Let "Bullets" Provide Your Holiday Money. Bank Notes to be Won! See page 34.

BUY A TAXI CAB

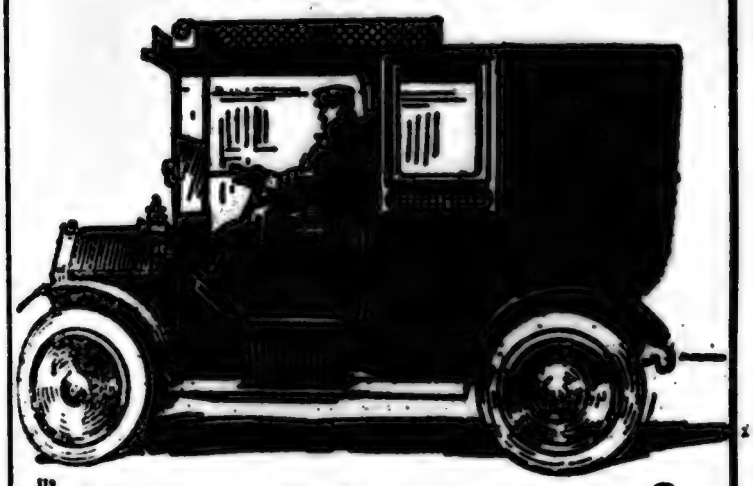
on the gradual payment system and become your own master: others are earning big incomes—so can you.

14/16 **Belsize** £410

To count all the Belsize taxis one sees in a day is to wonder where they all come from—to watch the steady stream of new Belsize taxis leaving the works is to wonder who o they all go to. The popularity of Belsize taxis is immens . Isn't that the greatest possible proof of the satisfaction they always give?

Take the first step now. Write to us for full details of our gradual payment system, and latest car list.

BENTINCK MOTOR SUPPLY CO., LTD.,
13, Spring Gardens, Manchester.



113.

A Guaranteed Weatherproof for . . 25/-

This "Kelvit" is something entirely new in Weatherproofs. No illustration can give any idea of its sterling value, and it is the only coat at anything like the price which is a perfect protection in all weathers. Kelvit Weatherproofs are made in a variety of Browns, Fawns and Greens in two styles — the Raglan as illustrated—and the Slip-on, which has a Prussian Collar and buttons close up to the throat. The neat check lining which harmonises with the colour of the coat is also perfect —and proofed.

KELVIT WEATHERPROOFS

. . Sent on Approval for Six Days. . .

We will send a Kelvit Weatherproof, Carriage Paid, on approval for Six days on receipt of your remittance for 25/-

When ordering, please state height and chest measurement over waistcoat. If you would like to learn more about the Kelvit Weatherproofs before ordering, send for free booklet, "THE WEATHERWISE WEATHERPROOF," and patterns. . .

Glasgow Clothing Co

ROWINA

ARGYLE ST. . . . . GLASGOW.

The Palmer Tyre Secret

—is in the fabric—the wonderful cover reinforcement which made the Palmer Fame: no woven canvas to saw and chafe, but strong threads of best Egyptian Yarn in perfect insulation. Micro-graph No. 1 shows a section of Palmer Fabric cut from a cover 8 years old.

The Threads are as strong and as straight as when new.

No. 2 shows the same section with the threads extracted showing that after 8 years wear, the Para furrows are still intact. Damp can never reach the Palmer Threads; they cannot saw with friction, nor absorb your pedalling energy.

Magnification of all cover sections.

Micro-graph of Palmer Fabric.

Micro-graph of insulation furrows.

Five grades of Palmer Tyres—each quality giving the maximum mileage for the price.

	Covers.	Tubes.
"STANDARD"	11/6	5/6
"TANDEM"	15/-	5/6
"SPECIAL"	18/-	8/6

Made by the Palmer Process.

	Covers.	Tubes.
The "Privateer"	9/3	4/-
The "Buccaneer"	7/9	3/9

Wired or Beaded edges, in many sizes, at each price.

TYRE HINTS—POST FREE.

The Palmer Booklet shows how to make *any* tyre last longer. It gives Lighting Tables too. Send a p.c. for it.

THE PALMER TYRE, LIMITED, (Cycle Dept. E 5),
119, 121, 123, Shaftesbury Avenue, LONDON, W.C.

Depots at Coventry, Nottingham, Glasgow, Birmingham, Leeds, Manchester, etc. (5)

TOOTAL

SHIRTS

If a Tootal Shirt loses its color we return your money

The Reason Why is in the Dye

Never again need you see your shirts returned from the laundry "washed-out," with patterns blurred — never if you wear Tootal Shirts — the "Money-Back" Shirts.

Sun, rain, wind and the laundries' ruinous washing compounds, all are defied by the "money-back" Guarantee Label—stitched below the collar-band of every Tootal Shirt. Prices:

Red	Blue	Black
4/6	5/6	6/6
Label.	Label.	Label.

Tootal Shirts cannot lose their woven-in indelible colors. That is impossible, since the colors have already withstood more scientifically severe Bleaching Tests than they will get in any laundry.

At your Outfitters, in a wide range of stylish patterns. Ready to wear. Every shirt guaranteed not to lose color. If you have any difficulty in obtaining Tootal Shirts write us and we will see that a selection of patterns is submitted to you.

TOOTAL BROADHURST LEE CO., LTD., Dept. 88, 132, Cheapside, London, E.C.
Manufacturers of Tootal Shirtings, also Pyramid Handkerchiefs Tobralco, Tootal's Piqué (Double-width) and Lisse Handkerchiefs for Ladies

JOLLY JOBS.

SANATORIUM BENEFITS—NEW STYLE.

It is to be hoped that Mr. Masterman will soon resume his normal activities as Chairman of the Insurance Commissioners. There are several members of provincial Insurance Committees who are badly in need of a flick of that famous white-wash brush. At a recent meeting of the Rochdale Committee Mr. J. Dunham, Chairman of the Sanatorium Sub-Committee, was called upon to show cause why when journeying to Bury and Bolton he should have gone in a taxi-cab instead of by train, thereby mulcting the funds to the tune of thirty-four shillings. To his credit be it said that, the matter having once been raised, Mr. Dunham invited his colleagues to discuss his costly joy-ride to their hearts' content. Most of the members, however, appear to have "roared like sucking doves," but Alderman Cunliffe, with a full sense of his responsibility as Chairman, plucked up heart and said:—

> I feel that I have some responsibility for the clean and economical management of this Committee, and if it was needful for Mr. Dunham to go to Bury, there is a very good service of trains which he could have taken at a very much cheaper rate than hiring a taxi. Further, I am not sure whether he should make such a visit at all without the sanction of the Sub-Committee. It is public money, and ought to be economically and wisely administered. I consider Mr. Dunham's action needs a good deal of justification, and I should much like to hear what he has to say.

Here was a direct challenge which Mr. Dunham could scarcely disdain. Nor, as we have said, was he disposed to evade the issue. He had been to Bury and Bolton in a taxi-cab and enjoyed the trip, and the whole world was welcome to the news. He had taken a "pal" with him, and he didn't care who knew it. At Bury he had inspected a sanatorium of the latest type while the "taxi" gaily ticked up twopences in the road outside. At Bolton he had drunk tea and talked insurance with a high municipal dignitary. That he preferred a taxi-cab to a train was not unnatural, and called for no explanation. These were the facts, and for aught he cared they might be trumpeted from the house-tops and placarded upon the city's walls. In short, he had done what he demd well pleased, and the Committee might go hang, demmit. The Chairman apparently found no means to curb the froward spirit of the rebellious member, though he hinted darkly at a reference to the Commissioners. The peccant account was passed, and will in due course be entered upon the books of the Committee. There it will doubtless enjoy sweet repose until it is resurrected by the Treasury Auditors.

More swift was the correction which recently overtook Mr. W. H. Castlehow, Vice-Chairman of the South Shields Insurance Committee. Upon his own showing, this gentleman was the victim of a singular chapter of accidents. It chanced that the Clerk to the Committee required the assistance of a qualified typist, and the vacant post having been duly advertised, the Clerk being empowered to appoint whom he chose, a number of applications were received, but before the day of appointment, who should drop into the office but Mr. Castlehow, with his young and promising son, fresh and green from school. So impressed was the Clerk with the youth's appearance that without ado he pressed him into service. By chance the circumstances of the appointment leaked out and the Committee, meeting in high wrath, deprived the younger Castlehow of all office and emolument and appointed an experienced young lady to type in his stead. Perhaps we can get along without Mr. Masterman after all.

ARMY "ADVANTAGES."

ASTONISHING OFFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.

After working four years at his trade, a wheelwright joined the Army, in which he served a similar period before buying his discharge. During the whole of his military service he continued working at his trade. Upon leaving the Army, he applied for a Government job—to be officially informed that he could not possibly be a good craftsman, as he had been a soldier! He tells us he is now earning 10d. an hour at his trade. This man's treatment hardly bears out the recent pamphlet on the "Advantages of the Army."

BEHIND THE SCENES AT A CAMERA TRIAL.

A REASONED REMONSTRANCE.

Is a common juryman an employed person within the meaning of the National Insurance Act? The question was raised at the recent Lewes Assizes, where the learned judge, visibly embarrassed, seems to have referred it to distinguished counsel for decision. In common with eleven other good men and true, drawn from remote parts of the county of Sussex, a juror had spent nine days in the box upon the trial of John Love Elliott. For the whole of this period his employer had of course been deprived of his services. For one week at least his insurance card would remain unstamped. Was it not for the Court to show cause why a stamp should not be affixed by order of the Bench and at the cost of the County?

After some little hesitation the point was resolved in favour of the juryman, whose card was accordingly stamped by the Clerk of the Court. The incident, which as far as we know is without precedent, occurred while the Court was sitting in camera, but for which it would doubtless have attained wide publicity.

We are indebted for our information to a member of the jury who, with the full assent of his colleagues, has sent us a detailed report of their experiences. The jurymen, who without exception were business men to whom time was of the utmost value, arrived at Lewes, according to summons, at half-past ten on a Wednesday morning. They were then curtly informed that their services would not be required till a similar hour on the following day. Returning to their homes—the twelve were drawn from no less than nine different townships—they again put in an appearance on the Thursday, only to be "remanded" for a further period of twenty-four hours. On Friday afternoon they were at length ushered into the jury-box for the hearing of a trial which was to last more than a week. During its progress they had no alternative but to remain in Lewes or to return nightly to their homes in time for bed, leaving again before business hours in the morning. The financial results of this state of affairs may well be imagined. They are succinctly stated by our correspondent:—

> Without taking into consideration any loss of wages and general inconvenience to our respective businesses, our average out of pocket expenses have been from five to ten shillings per day. Our losses could be put down at anything from £4 15s. to £10.

In the present state of the law jurors cannot, of course, obtain a penny of recompense for loss thus arising from their unremunerated labours.

Apart altogether from financial considerations, our correspondent voices a complaint which merits the notice of the Court authorities at Lewes:—

> We did not anticipate finding the comforts of a first-class hotel existing at a Court of Assize, but we were disgusted at the ramshackle appearance of the room in which we had occasionally to retire. It had the appearance of not being papered or whitewashed for the past ten years.

Small wonder that before separating the twelve resolved "that the present jury system inflicts an absolute injustice upon loyal British citizens."

THE BISHOP AND THE BOOZE.

CRUSHING REFUTATION OF DR. INGRAM'S THEORIES.

Swift on the heels of the Bishop of London's claim that Sunday closing in Scotland has been conducive to sobriety, comes the refutation of official figures. The Inspector of Constabulary in Scotland, Major A. G. Ferguson, has just issued his Report for 1913, from which it appears that during last year there was an increase of 5,927 cases of drunkenness in Scotland. What clearer evidence is required to prove that irritating restrictions upon the sale of intoxicating liquors defeat the very purpose for which they are imposed? Men and women, even though they be Scots, are very much like children. Tell them they must not have a certain thing, and their determination to obtain it is instantly increased tenfold. To be as wise as the serpent and harmless as the dove is, we believe, one of the Christian ideals. So far as his attempt at temperance legislation goes, the Bishop has proved himself to be neither the one nor the other.

Increase in "Bullets" Prizes—Special Holiday Prizes—Value £1,775. See page 34.

An exceedingly comfortable Easy Chair, double sprung, sumptuously upholstered and covered in art tapestry to customer's choice. An exceptional bargain at £2 11s. 6d.

Write for the New Book of Furniture.

This new and very handsome volume—the finest and most comprehensive Guide to Furnishing ever published—contains over 1,000 photographs actually taken in our Furniture Salons. Write for it to-day.

Ideal Terms.
Town or Country.

Worth.	Per Mth.
£10	£0 6 0
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£30	0 17 0
£40	1 5 0
£50	1 8 0
£100	2 5 0
£200	4 10 0

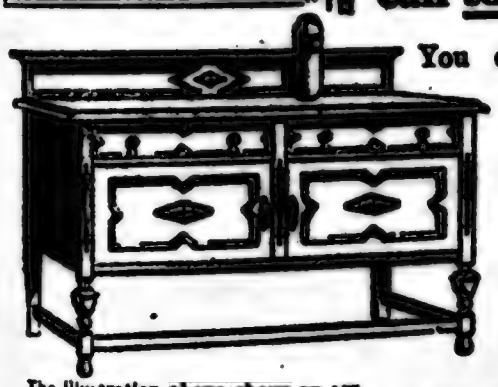
10% discount for cash.

This Little Chap

buys more at the "Midland."

When you go to the "Midland" for your furniture, you are not buying from an ordinary retail firm. The "Midland" are actual manufacturers. That cuts out the usual intermediate profits. Further, the huge scale of the "Midland" business and their consequent command of markets enable them to give you extra value for every sovereign.

There isn't a firm in London that can touch the "Midland" for value.



You can easily test the accuracy of what I say. Come to the "Midland." There is £100,000 worth of superb furniture on view. Pick out any article you like. Look at the plainly-marked price. Then go and find out what you would be charged elsewhere for furniture of anything like the same quality. You'll soon discover that money does buy more at the "Midland."

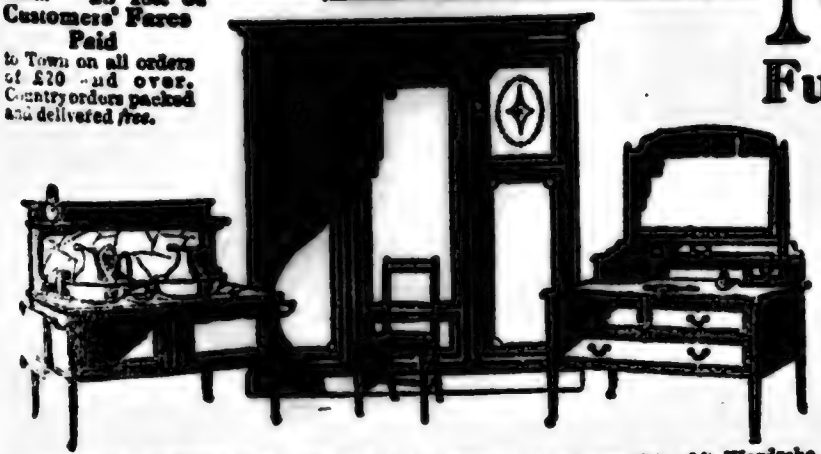
10% Discount for Cash.

The illustration above shows an exceptionally fine Sideboard, designed in the style of the Jacobean period. Soundly constructed of oak and very carefully finished in every detail. £5 18s. 6d

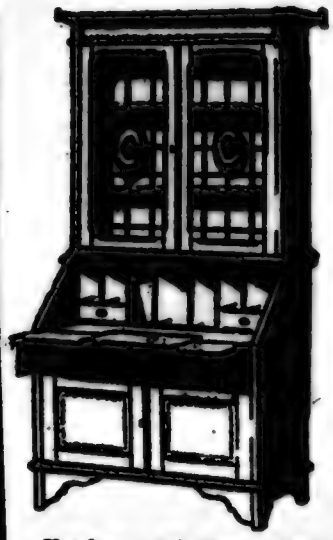
Customers' Fares Paid

to Town on all orders of £20 and over. Country orders packed and delivered *free*.

Country Post Orders receive the prompt attention of a special manager.



A highly inlaid Mahogany Suite, designed in the Sheraton style, comprising 6 ft. Wardrobe, 4 ft. Dressing-table, 4 ft. Washstand, with marble top and back. Complete with 2 cane-seated Chairs. £25 10s. 0d.



Handsome Oak Bureau Bookcase, fitted with leaded light glass doors and fall front, 3 ft. wide, 7 ft. high, 16 in. deep.
£4 15s. 0d.

Free Life and Fire Insurance.

The "Midland" charge nothing for credit—no deposit, no interest. Customers can also obtain free insurance policies whereby all furniture purchased on Ideal Terms becomes the absolute property of the wife, in the event of the death of the purchaser. All furniture thus purchased is also insured against fire, free.

Oak Adjustable Chair of charming design, covered in tapestry.
£1 6s. 6d.

Midland

Furnishing Company, Ltd.,

Contractors to H.M. Crown Agents for the Colonies.

15-23, Southampton Row, Holborn, London, W.C.

Seven doors from Holborn and Holborn Tube Station. One minute from British Museum Tube Station.

Hours—9 till 8. Saturdays—9 till 1.

Governing Director: **George Michael** *(who has been associated with the business for 40 years).*

NO BRANCH ESTABLISHMENTS.

"THE GREATEST OF THESE—"

HUMAN DOCUMENTS.

[On this page every week we publish particulars of human derelicts whose cases, after full investigation, we are able to recommend to the charity of our readers. We are happy to say that in this way we have already been the means of bringing comfort into many a wretched home. All amounts subscribed are duly acknowledged, and no deduction of any kind is made by us.]

CCCXVII.—WHAT A LIFE!

A few weeks ago Mr. George Bernard Shaw said that no woman should bring a child into the world unless she was paid £2,000 by the State. On this basis the poor woman for whom we appeal should be well endowed with this world's goods. She is, however, penniless, and has six youngsters clinging to her skirts. Another child is now fourteen. He is the "father" of the family—the poor woman's husband having died two years ago—and earns 7s. a week! His mother, since losing the natural breadwinner, has somehow managed to keep the little ones together by going out charing—but how things are looking very black. She has been very ill for the past month, and, although the parish are allowing her 6s. 6d. a week, without some further financial aid she fears that she and her children will have to go into the workhouse. The brave little "man of the house" declares his mother shall not go there, and we hope that, with our readers' aid, his plucky determination will not be frustrated. Surely such a mother and such a son are worth a helping hand! Will you enable us to give them one?

CCCXVIII.—ACQUAINTED WITH GRIEF.

The subject of this paragraph is another widow, 36 years of age. At the death of her husband, three years ago, she too was left penniless, with five children. Four of these are now placed in good homes—the fifth, a girl of seven, is still with the mother, and she wishes to retain her. "King Death" has wrought such havoc in this woman's family that, with the exception of her children, she has not a relation in the world—in the comparatively short period of six years the Reaper removed not only her husband, but her father, mother, two sisters and a brother. After the death of her husband she struggled hard to keep her children, but one by one she was forced to let them go. The one she now wishes to retain is dearer to her than life itself, and she asks us to endeavour to get her a position as housekeeper, where she could take her child with her. The youngster is cheerful, healthy, intelligent, and should not be a great obstacle to the mother obtaining such a post. Before the poor woman could, however, take over any such position both she and the child would require a complete outfit. We shall be pleased to forward any offer of employment, and to receive donations on her behalf.

CCCXIX.—AN UNUSUAL APPEAL.

We are, for several reasons, reluctant to act as intermediaries in the adoption of babies, but, in view of the remarkably pathetic circumstances, we make an exception. A young girl in domestic service loved, and appeared to be loved in return, by a young artisan. After several months' courtship it became necessary for her to leave her situation. The man responsible for her sad predicament advised her to go home, and promised that he would marry her a month before the climax of her trouble. She did as he desired and braved the anger of her parents. This was somewhat mollified by a visit from the young man, who promised forthwith to "make arrangements for the marriage." He literally kept his word, putting up the banns. But two days before the date fixed for the ceremony he absconded, and his whereabouts are quite unknown. The poor girl is now a mother—her child, a blue-eyed baby boy, being eight weeks old. She is still with her parents—both aged and very poor country people, who have another child, a confirmed cripple. The girl who "loved not wisely but too well" prays that one of our readers will, by taking the infant, enable her to make a fresh start in life. She has had a bitter lesson. Would any responsible childless couple care to adopt the baby? It comes from a healthy stock. The recent trouble has reduced both the girl herself and her parents to sore straits, and we shall be glad also to receive subscriptions for their benefit.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

We have received the following, which we have duly forwarded to the subjects of the "Human Documents" named:—

CCXC.—F. R. H. S., 21s.
CCCVI.—G. B. (Cairo), 1s.; J. E. L., 10s.
CCCVII.—G. B. (Cairo), 1s.
CCCIX.—J. D. F., 1s.
CCCX.—J. D. F., 1s.; "Cynthia," 1s. 6d.
CCCXI.—G. S., 1s.; J. D. F., 1s.; A. F. (Burnley), parcel.
CCCXII.—C. E. P., 2s. 6d.; "Tom," 2s.; T. M., 2s. 6d.; "Hillcrest," 6d.; O. D., 1s.; "Nautical Sympathisers," £1; "Pete," 1s. 6d.; A. E. M., 10s.; "Anon," 1s.; "Impatient," 2s. 6d.; M. J. A., 1s.; "Anon," parcel; "Sturton," 1s.
CCCXIII.—"Mavis," 2s.; "Elstow," 1s.; Mrs. J. W., 5s.; "Faith, Hope and Charity," 1s.; "Easter," 2s.; J. N., 1d.; C. E. P., 2s. 6d.; "Little Johnnie," 8s.; J. S. J., 2s. 6d.; J. B., 2s. 6d.; Mrs. G., 1s.; "Tallyman," 2s. 6d.; "Anonymous," £1; "Anonymous," 5s.; "Anon," 1s.; "Nautical Sympathisers," £1; "Sympathiser," 1s.; "Anon," parcels; E. M. H., 4d.; A. D., 6d.; T. A., 1s.; "Pikey," 1s. 3d.

Mr. Ewart Wise, the winner of the £500 in our 77th "Bull's" Competition, has sent us £5, which we have divided between CCCII and CCCIII.

We have this week divided £10 from the John Bull Derby Sweepstake Charity Fund between "Human Document CCCXIV," and the youth referred to in our last issue under the heading of "A Monstrous Impost"—£5 being the costs imposed in regard to a summons for recklessly driving a motor cycle, the failure in payment of which would entail the lad going to prison.

We have also apportioned £10 from the John Bull Football Cup Sweepstake Charity Fund between "Human Document CCCXV" and Mr. Charles Lee, the Willesden Magistrate, for distribution, in his discretion, amongst poor people with whom his duties bring him into contact.

We have further allocated £10 from the John Bull Grand National Sweepstake Charity Fund, as follows:—CCCVIII, 50s.; CCCIX, 50s. and CCCXVI, £5.

THE TRUMP FUND.

We have pleasure in acknowledging the following further subscriptions:—

Field-Marshal Lord Roberts, V.C., etc. . . . £1.
J. C. (Margate) . . . . . 1s.

"NOT STRAINED."

Our attention has been drawn to the case of a poor woman, of excellent character, who has been deserted by her husband and left destitute, with six children. She has an offer of daily employment if only she can get a little furniture together and a few decent clothes, to give her a start. We have, therefore, had much pleasure in sending her £6 from the John Bull Grand National Sweepstake Charity Fund.

COLLECTING BOXES.

Leamington.—Mr. J. S. Neal, "Blue Posts," 54, Charlotte St., 1s. 6½d.; Mr. W. Smith, 83, Blackstock Rd., Finsbury Park, 1s. 1d.; Mrs. Wartman, "Butchers' Arms," 256, York Rd., 1s. 2½d.; Mr. I. Goldstein, "Bedford Arms," 1, Sandford St., 1s. 4½d.; Mrs. Egan, "Black Lion," 272, High Rd., Kilburn, 1s. 5d.; Mr. A. Stribling, 33, Carlton Vale, Kilburn, 1s.; Messrs. Regent and Lewis, 213, High Rd. Kilburn, 1s. 1½d.; Mr. A. E. Moore, 251, Elgin Avenue, Maida Vale, 1s. 6½d.; Mr. J. Hume, "Derby Tavern," Derby St., Kentish Town, 1s. 2d.; Mr H. A. Lloyd, "Assembly House," Kentish Town Rd., 1s 2d.; Mr B. Barney, 193, Kentish Town Rd., 1s. 1d.

Leeds.—Mr S. Pullen, "North Inn," North St., 2s. 6½d.; Mr. H. Hall, Hairdresser, Kirkgate, 2s. 6d.; Mr. G. Sedgewick, "Mason's Arms," St. James St., 2d.

Faversham.—Mr. J. Duran, 14, East St., 1s.

Total, 19s. 10d., which we have allocated to CCCXIII.

Great New Summer Competition—£1,000 for a Forecast. See page 29.

THE GRAVES 45/- SUIT. MADE EXACTLY TO YOUR MEASURES

The Graves 45/- Suit lifts its wearer above his fellows and endows him with an appearance altogether smarter and more gentlemanly than the man with clothes of ordinary make. The quality of the material in the Graves Suit is in keeping with its handsome style, and the excellent workmanship and finish are remarkable examples of high-grade tailoring at a strictly moderate price.

WRITE FOR PATTERNS. A post card sent to-day will bring you per return the finest selection of cloth samples ever submitted at the price, all cut from the actual cloth lengths now being made up for orders for the Graves 37/6 and 45/- Suits. Once you have the patterns in your hands you will be able to judge of the excellence of the materials we are using, the undoubted superiority of the designs, and the tastefulness of the shades and colourings. This comprehensive selection of cloths includes a splendid variety of **Tweeds, Cheviots, Worsted Serges, Black & Blue Vicunas,** and a remarkably fine range of genuine hard-wearing **Yorkshire Suitings.** Whether you entrust us with your order or not, you should at least become acquainted with the dependable values we are offering. **Say if Light or Dark Patterns are Desired.**

IN YOUR OWN INTEREST you should look into this unusual clothing proposal immediately. When you come to examine the cloth samples which we will send you post free on receipt of a postcard, you will be struck by the reliable quality, the fashionable shades, and the superiority of the designs. Graves Suits are for men of all ages, so if you have preferences and ideas of your own as to how you would like your suit making, simply tell us when sending your order, and your wishes will have our most careful attention. Our terms of business enable you to have your Suit and wear it whilst paying for it, and the conditions governing every transaction positively guarantee you against disappointment or loss. Unless you are entirely satisfied with the Suit after full examination in your own home, we will refund the whole of your money.

GRAVES SUITS are for Men who appreciate Good Tailoring at a strictly moderate price, and Graves Easy Terms enable them to dress smartly and well on a limited outlay without feeling it an effort.

Fullest Approval Allowed.

TERMS Our terms of business enable you to have your Suit whilst paying for it. For 7/- NOW, we Deliver the Suit to approved orders exactly to measure, carriage paid to destination, and if you are entirely satisfied with Fit, Style, Quality and Value, the balance to be completed in Five Monthly Payments of 7/- and one of 3/- making 45/- in all. If you are in any way disappointed with the Suit, return it to us within seven days and we will immediately refund every penny you have paid.

Wherever you live, our Keen Prices and Easy Terms are for YOU.

FOR 7/ NOW

J. G. GRAVES Ltd.
SHEFFIELD.

CANDID COMMUNICATIONS.

[This page is devoted to Open Letters to Celebrities, Notorieties, and, occasionally, Nonentities.]

To the Right Hon. J. A. Pease, P.C., M.P., President of the Board of Education.

DEAR "JACK,"—Forgive me for putting it bluntly, but haven't you rather given the game away? The House was recently discussing second ballots, alternative votes, and other little devices for ascertaining "the will of the People." Then somebody mentioned proportional representation which, as everyone knows, is an ingenious though somewhat complicated plan for ensuring that every shade of opinion shall be fairly represented in Parliament. You criticised this scheme, not on the score of its novelty or complexity—the usual points of attack—but because in your judgment it "would fail to secure a working majority for the Government of the day." Are we to infer that it is through the anomalies of the electoral system that you and your colleagues have been enabled to grasp the reins of power? But, of course, you are a Minister, and should "have notice" of troublesome questions.

JOHN BULL.

To the Right Hon. Walter Runciman, P.C., M.P., President of the Board of Agriculture.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT,—I recently addressed you with reference to the wretched traffic in worn-out horses which has vexed the sensibilities of every humane man. Since then a Bill to prohibit the export of these unhappy creatures has been discussed in the House of Commons upon the motion of Colonel Hall-Walker. Upon its second reading the measure secured unanimous support, and you were accordingly invited to furnish facilities for its further progress. I much regret that you were unable to promise such assistance, but for this I am not disposed to hold you personally to blame. I am bound to say, however, that the terms in which you sought to dismiss the measure were most unhappily chosen. You evinced scant sympathy with the purpose of the Bill, and displayed no trace of that moral indignation which had roused the House. I take leave to express my profound disappointment.

JOHN BULL.

To the Hon. W. J. Bryan, Secretary of State, Washington.

DEAR MR. SECRETARY,—A handful of American marines having been arrested by the minions of Huerta, you have acted with vigour and despatch. Your fiat has gone forth and the froward rebels must eat the dust. The honour of civilised Powers must be jealously conserved. Yet, when a British subject was foully done to death in Mexico, I remember with little satisfaction that you were powerless to intervene! Grave obstacles hindered, diplomatic niceties forbade. Peace must at all costs be preserved. An attempt to curb the freedom of your soldiery has found you free from these restraints. The moral is not lost upon us.

JOHN BULL.

To the Chairman, Finance Committee, Town Hall, Darlington.

DEAR SIR,—With a very great deal of pleasure I perceive that, as a result of the action of Councillor Robinson and Councillor Bates, your Committee have been requested by the Town Council "to consider and report as to the advisability of appointing a Stipendiary Magistrate for the Borough of Darlington." Apart from any differences of opinion as to recent Party appointments of Justices of the Peace, I am assured there is a strong feeling among the inhabitants that so considerable a town ought to possess a stipendiary adequately equipped by training and temperament for his position. Experience proves that the administration of justice is far safer in the hands of such a man than in those of persons raised to the Bench through the back-stair influences of Party caucuses and the wirepulling of local cliques. In the interests of the burgesses, sir, I have every confidence that you will do your utmost to impress on your colleagues the great importance of the inquiry committed to their care.

JOHN BULL.

To R. E. Stuart, Esq., Clerk to [illegible] Council

DEAR MR. CLERK,—I notice that you are advertising two appointments, one of District Surveyor for 13 parishes and 71 miles of local roads, at a salary of £30 per annum, "including everything," the other that of Inspector of Nuisances at a salary of £25. The Surveyor is required "to perform all the duties attaching to the office of Surveyor of Highways, prepare plans for the Council, keep the necessary books and accounts, and superintend the drainage and sewage works," as well as give a bond for £100; the Nuisance Inspector "will have to perform all the duties imposed on Inspectors of Nuisances by the Public Health Act, 1875, and subsequent Acts, and by the Orders of the Local Government Board, and also act as Inspector under the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Orders, and the Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909."

The purpose of this note, sir, is therefore to inquire as to what class of candidate the Council's advertisement appeals. Are they inviting applications from inmates of lunatic asylums, bottle-feeders in nurseries, or scions of noble families with assured incomes, anxious to employ their leisure in light but joyous labour? May the successful candidate dissipate his salary in the riotous living which I suppose is characteristic of official circles in Wheatenhurst, or will he be required to sign the pledge, live on mangel-wurzels, play the organ in church, take a class in the Sunday-school, pay his rent, rates, and taxes like a man and a Briton, wear a clean collar, pay fourpence per week for his rare and refreshing fruit, keep his hair on in the Home Rule crisis, and cultivate a smile that won't come off? A reply at your early convenience will suit me admirably.

JOHN BULL.

To Mr. Charles Duncan, M.P., House of Commons, S.W.

DEAR LEGISLATOR,—I have my eye on you. You recently attended a meeting at Leominster, where you discoursed in vigorous fashion on the topics of the hour. Your remarks were generally appreciated, but there was a gentleman on the platform who had the temerity to disagree with you and to advance contrary opinions under your very nose. You then proclaimed on the spot a measure of "martial law," and seizing the contentious orator by the scruff of the neck, forcibly "deported" him into the street without. Yet I have no doubt that upon apt occasion you can discourse glibly enough of the "sacred right of free speech," and of the iniquity of those who would "stifle honest opinion" for their private ends. What funny fish some of you Labour chaps are!

JOHN BULL.

George Mitchell, Esq., Knock-out Villa, Bradford.

DEAR MR. MITCHELL,—Whatever possessed an amateur boxer of your class to challenge a professional of the position of Georges Carpentier? Vanity, assurance, pluck?—how in the world is one to explain an *affaire* so ridiculous or a conclusion so inevitable? *Dire tout bas*, I suspect it is a bit of all three. To the extent that it was arranged for a bet, you have won, for you did stand up against Georges longer than Bombardier Wells; for the rest, I don't suppose the souvenirs of the occasion, as far as you are concerned, are either less substantial than you anticipated, or more decorative than you deserved. Having got in full what you asked for, it isn't the temperament of a Yorkshire sportsman to either squirm or to squeal; so enough said.

JOHN BULL.

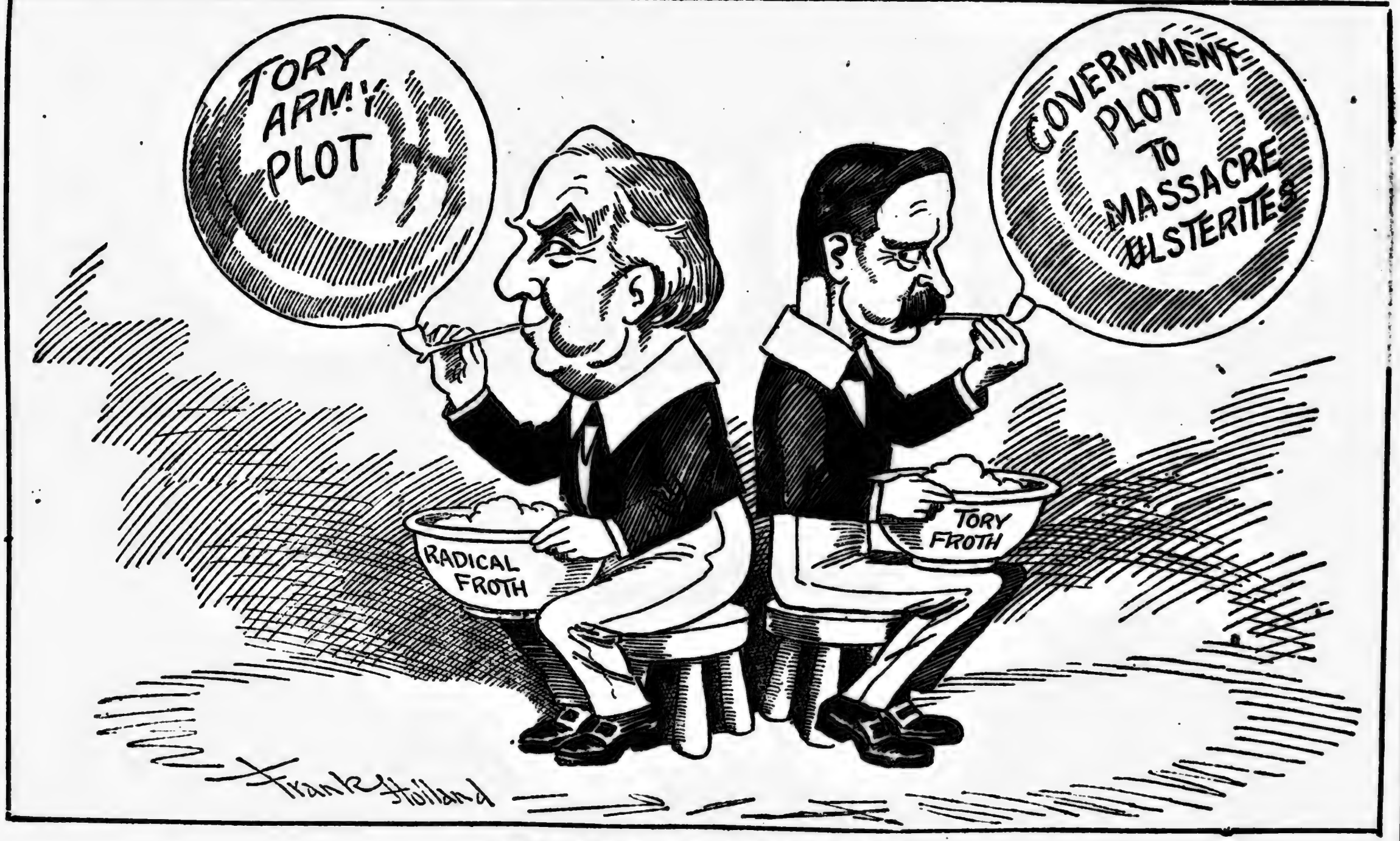
Mrs. Catherine Jenkins, Dairy Proprietress, Willesden.

DEAR MADAM,—When you were fined 5s. recently for selling milk during the weekly half-holiday, contrary to the Shops Act, you indulged in reminiscences of the time when you were wont to worship with Mr. Lloyd George in the little chapel at Criccieth, and expressed surprise that such a man as he then appeared to be could have sanctioned an Act which entails so much hardship upon tradespeople and their customers. In other words, you credited him with a more abundant secretion of the milk of human kindness than appears to you to be the case. Instead of laughing at your simplicity, the Court should have reminded you that assiduous attendance at a chapel is no guarantee of human perfection, and that once a man is infected with the virus of Party politics, the cloak of virtue which may have encompassed him in early manhood is often discarded in the heat of Party combat.

JOHN BULL.

"Bullets" Special Holiday Prizes—Value £1,775. See page 34.

RETURNING "BLOW" FOR "BLOW."



PARTY FROTH AND PARTY BUBBLES.

IN THE HANDS OF THE CHIROPODIST.

Straight Talks by our Tame Corn-Cutter.

MR. ASQUITH.

Good morning, sir .... Feet uneasy, and you'd like them examined? .... Certainly. .... Ah! slight distortion of the *astragalus* and an abnormal projection of the *os calcis* .... The cause? Well, I should say the former trouble is the result of toeing the line, and the latter of being constantly brought to heel .... What is the *astragalus*? .... The most important bone in the foot, sir. It may be called the keystone of the arch, taking the whole weight of the body, and distributing it amongst the other, minor bones of the foot. But in your case that important bone is seriously weakened, in consequence of excessive indulgence in the exercise I have mentioned—and is liable to give way at any moment, when nothing could save you from a fall .... What treatment do I suggest? .... I'm afraid a complete rest is the only thing. Make a point of retiring early .... Certainly you might derive some benefit from going to the country, but I rather doubt it. The trouble is too advanced for that, I fear. On your return you might find your last case worse than your first .... You say you have felt better since you paid a short visit to Scotland? .... Well, yes, you may have experienced a little temporary relief, but your trouble appears to me rather too deep seated for any permanent improvement to result from a quiet walk over in Scotland. Now, this abnormal projection of the *os calcis*—arising, as I have said, from your being periodically brought to heel—is a deformity which can be reduced by the exercise of care and attention. I notice that you wear Irish brogues. When did you adopt this type of footwear? .... Since 1910! Dear me, that is one of the chief causes of your trouble. But as your feet have now adapted themselves to the Irish last, I fear you will find it hard to accommodate yourself to any other pattern .... The best treatment? .... I am coming to that. The first thing to do is to tone up the flaccid muscles and harden the bones of your feet, so that you can not only stand without the artificial support of your Irish brogues, but also kick if necessary. Bathe your feet night and morning in orange flower water, and bind them firmly in Boyne water bandages on going to bed. .... This incipient bunion is probably the result of your pilgrim's progress to Fife a fortnight ago ..... Oh, yes, sir, I am quite aware who you are, and your identity being no secret I will venture to speak a little more plainly as to the care of your feet. I can promise you some very tender corns if you continue your daily walks between Downing Street and the War Office. Before long they will cause you as painful callosities as the rocky road to Dublin is giving your friend Mr. Redmond. I notice, too, that you have what is known to the faculty as a Lords' V toe. It is this that gives you the peculiar pre-amble which characterises your gait. It must be straightened out. If you place your feet unreservedly in my hands, so to speak, I will look upon it as a debt of honour that brooks no delay to restore your Lords' V toe to its proper shape .... You are right, sir—without comfortable feet life is hardly worth living. The want of sound understandings, if I may say so, is one of the most serious evils of modern times, sir—more especially amongst us Britishers. That is why we are for ever treading on one another's corns and finding out where the shoe pinches. We keep our soles too soft and our nails too long, so that we are afraid to kick when it would be to our advantage to do so. .... Well, good day, sir—and don't forget the orange flower water.

OUR CRANK'S CORNER.

Once upon a time a Microbe, in the course of his travels, arrived with his family in the system of a certain man. Poor old Mic lost many members of his family. Some were drowned in pints of beer while others were asphyxiated with the fumes of tobacco. The Microbe was at last forced to leave this unhealthy atmosphere, and he searched around until he found a fine example of the genus Aquapuritan, and with his family he took up his abode therein. So that they waxed fat and multiplied.

Moral.—Many a good man does not know how good he really is.

A Tip Worth Knowing

ERASMIC SHAVING STICK

GIVES THE EASIEST SHAVE.

In Nickel Case 10d

Of all Chemists & Hairdressers.

ERASMIC WARRINGTON.

WHITELEY'S KILDARE CLUB CYCLES

£3:19:6 12 MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF 6/8

Splendidly built and well finished, Dunlop Cambridge Tyres, Perry Chain and Free Wheel, nicely Lined. British Built Throughout.

RALEIGHS HUDSONS
SWIFTS HUMBERS
SINGERS JAMES

MOTOR CYCLES and CYCLE CARS by EASY Payments at % extra £1 in £5

Our Kildare Club Models are sound, honest value and are supplied by Easy Payments at the Cash Prices, with at one penny extra charge for the 12 months' credit. Whiteleys are the only firm in the British Isles offering such

WONDERFUL EASY PAYMENT TERMS.

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Please mention "John Bull."

You OWN Your Own Table

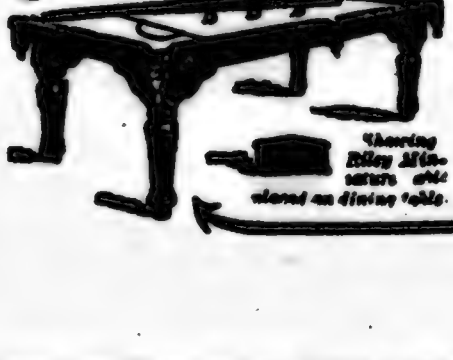
3¼d A DAY.

You can have a perfect Riley Billiard Table in your own home to play and practise on with no restriction of time. And you are paying while playing, and getting the same good game as on a Riley standard Table.

A RILEY MINIATURE BILLIARD TABLE

will be sent to your home for Seven Days' Free Trial. You can have a week's play, and if for some reason or other you are not satisfied, pack it up and advise Riley's—they will have it removed free of cost to you

Size		If Monthly Payments 5 per cent. is added to cash prices.
4 ft. 4 in. by 2 ft. 4 in.	£3 7/6	5/6
5 ft. 4 in. by 2 ft. 10 in.	£4 7/6	7/-
6 ft. 4 in. by 3 ft. 4 in.	£5 5/-	8/6
7 ft. 4 in. by 3 ft. 10 in.	£7 5/-	11/6
8 ft. 4 in. by 4 ft. 4 in.	£10	16/-



Showing Riley Miniature 6ft. 4in. placed on dining table.

FREE on receipt of postcard, illustrated Catalogue of Billiard and Combine Dining Tables, etc.

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CAN YOU SPEAK IN PUBLIC?

An Indispensable Guide to Public Speaking.

To one man the chance of making a speech affords the opportunity for an enhanced reputation; to another it is nothing but a danger. For the man who stutters and stammers, and finally sits down after a speech principally consisting of "ums" and "ers," scarcely enhances his reputation as a keen-witted member of the community or as a man whose intelligence and resource can be depended upon in a business crisis.

For that reason the publication of "The Book of Public Speaking" is an event of the greatest importance. For it is the first comprehensive work upon this important subject ever published in this country. It provides at once a collection of the greatest speeches of the world's greatest orators, and at the same time a reliable guide to the art of Public Speaking, written by men who are themselves famous as speakers of the highest merit.

How to Speak in Public.

The whole work is edited by A. C. Fox Davies, Barrister-at-Law, who is himself well known as a Public Speaker, and he has been assisted by:

RT. HON. T. J. MACNAMARA M.P., on "How to Make an Effective Speech";
SIR W. ROBERTSON NICOLL (Editor of the "British Weekly") on "The Art of Oratory";
ARTHUR BOURCHIER (the well-known Actor), on "How to Prepare and Deliver a Speech";
J. L. GRIFFITHS (U.S.A. Consul-General, London), on "After-Dinner Speaking";
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An Indispensable Work for Every Owner or Driver.

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The time is past when it required an expert engineer to drive a car, but a working knowledge of the various parts of a car and their functions is still essential to really successful driving, and the importance of this work to every owner and driver of a motor-car, cycle, or cycle-car, can hardly be over-estimated.

The Book of the Motor-Car is the first really comprehensive work on motor-cars, motor-cycles, and cycle-cars ever published. By the careful study of its chapters the rawest amateur can learn the principles upon which his car works, but at the same time it is so comprehensive and so striking in its detail that even the skilled expert will find it a book of enthralling interest and extreme utility, while the practical motorist will find it quite indispensable. It should be as much a part of the equipment of a garage as an oil-can or a lifting-jack.

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Cylinders, valves of all classes, different types of engines, carburetters, ignition, silencers, gears and clutches, radiators, cooling systems, brakes, lubrication, lighting systems, artillery and wire wheels, tyres, fuels and how to use them (including all the new petrol substitutes), tools and repair appliances, etc., etc.

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The work pays full attention to motor-cycles and cycle-cars, full details and instruction being given for all those points wherein they must be treated differently from the more powerful motor-car. In these and all other respects the Book of the Motor-Car is absolutely up-to-date, and in a line with the very latest discoveries in motor engineering. It is profusely illustrated with full-page plates, drawings in plan section and elevation, diagrams and photographs, as well as a series of sectional movable models in colour showing in detail the actual working parts of a car.

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IS BALZAC A CLASSIC?

WHAT CLEMENT SHORTER SAYS.

It is a matter of common knowledge that the recent announcement of an edition of that great French author, Balzac, in its complete and unexpurgated form caused a considerable stir in certain quarters.

Fortunately, however, the publication is now an accomplished fact. For though the prurient-minded may see wrong where none is meant—and Balzac certainly did write of nature as he found it—it would have been a thousand pities if the public had been deprived of this its first chance of reading Balzac as he meant to be read.

The Napoleon of Literature.

For Balzac was to literature what Napoleon was to arms—a man of giant brain who saw all life, all character, and all events as material to be turned into stories, and who did not believe that there were any events that could not be told with advantage. And so his novels make their appeal to all.

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And all those who realise this will hasten to take advantage of the offer of his Best Novels in 14 volumes, specially selected by that famous Balzacian, Mr. Clement Shorter, Editor of the *Sphere*.

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Cousine Bette.	The Lily of the Valley
Cousin Pons	The Illustrious Gaudissart.
La Duchesse de Langeais.	The Village Curé.
The House of the Cat and Racket.	The Country Doctor.
Gobseck.	The Magic Skin.
Old Goriot.	The Unknown Masterpiece.
Eugenie Grandet.	

What Clement Shorter says—

"Something has been said of the fact that the publishers advertise that their Balzac is 'unexpurgated.' This is of the utmost importance. The charge that a translator 'betrays' is justified where there is a prurient attempt to modify and alter phrases in the interests of Mrs. Grundy. Nothing can justify that. When face to face with a great classic, we want the book as near as possible as the author presented it."

What "Truth" says:—

"I can testify not only to the excellence of translation, but also to the charm of the type, binding, paper, and especially of the exquisite illustrations by famous French artists. I should mention also that they are absolutely unexpurgated, and are translated with fidelity, avoiding the coarseness which is so marked in the works of less skilful translators, although quite foreign to the spirit of Balzac himself. Considered in every light, I am unable to conceive a more satisfactory edition of the great novelist's work."

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Please send me free of charge and without any obligation on my part, full particulars of "The Book of Public Speaking."

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HIS BETTER HALF: "And I thought you were one as would allus keep to the straight path, John!" JOHN: "Gain, silly! That's just wot done me. If I'd a turned down that there alley they wouldn't a catched me."

HEARD IN THE TRAIN.

HOME RULE ALL ROUND.

BILL: Give us 'Ome Rule orl rarnd, I sez. Look at *h*us English. 'Oo's a-rulin' of us, I awsk? Blinkin' Scotties an' Welshmen, 'elped by the Irish. Thet's wot it is. I say it's a bloomin disgrace to *h*us English.

TOM: *H*asquith's English, ain't 'e?

BILL: 'E's a Yorkshire tyke, I grawncher. But 'e sits fur a Scotch constitchewency, don't 'e? 'E 'as ter go darn ter Fife to awsk 'is Scotch constitchewents if they'll be ser kind es ter send 'im back to the 'Ouse again, don't 'e? Ain't thet bein' ruled by the blinkin' Scotch?

TOM: But 'e's English, an' 'e's Prime Minister.

BILL: I know orl erbart thet. But, I tell yer, 'e 'as ter kow-tow to the Scotch, don't 'e? I tell yer, England oughter rise, thet's wot we oughter do, like wot *H*ulster 'as.

TOM: 'Oo're yer goin' ter rise agin?

BILL: W'y—gorblimy, mate, doncher know?

TOM: No; nore you neether.

BILL: Git art! 'Oo's *H*ulster risin' agin?

TOM: W'y, the 'Ome Rule pawty.

BILL: There you aw, then. Thet's wot I say.

TOM: Don't tork ser silly. *H*ulster's risin' becos she *don't want* 'Ome Rule. You say we English oughter rise ter *git* 'Ome Rule.

BILL: 'Ome Rule orl rarnd, I sed.

TOM: Well, 'oo're yer goin' ter rise agin? Thet's wot I wanter know.

BILL: W'y sh'd I teach chew? I don't git paid nuthink fur it.

TOM: It 'ud take a better man then wot chew aw ter teach me onnything, mate. I've fergot more'n you ever learned.

BILL: Yer needn't git yer rag art. Cawn't cher tork pollerticks wivart losin' yer 'air? Wot I sez is this: a Englishman's supposed ter be boss in 'is own 'ome?

TOM: Serposed ter be. Aw *you*, mate?

BILL: Never you mind erbart me. I dessay I'm es much boss in my 'ome es wot chew aw in yourn.

TOM: Not ercordin' ter wot I've 'eard.

BILL: Wotterve you 'eard, may I awsk?

TOM: You kin awsk, but I ain't likely ter tell yer. I don't wanter make more trouble in yore 'ome then wotcherve got awlready.

BILL: You're a blooming liar!

TOM: Jew meanter tell me yore missus ain't boss?

BILL: I leaves the 'ome in 'er 'ands, if thet's wotcher mean. Thet's 'er department, an' I don't *h*interfere. But thet ain't bein' boss.

TOM: Don't she wait artside the fact'ry on Sa'dy arternoon ter gitcher money?

BILL: She comes ter meet me and then we does a bit o' shoppin' tergether. But it don't foller becos er thet thet she's boss.

TOM: Didn' she fetch yer art o' the Dook's 'Ead one night larst week.

BILL: She 'ad somethink ter say ter me.

TOM: I know she 'ad. I 'card some of it, haw, haw!

BILL: Think I care wot chew 'eard? I tell yer wot it is: you're a dirty tyke to torkerbart my missus like this. You ain't got no call to.

TOM: Ain't I?

BILL: No, you ain't. I wos torkin' erbart 'Ome Rule orl rarnd.

TOM: Thet's jest it. You wos a-sayin' England ought to rise—torkin' big as if you wos a swankin' pollertishun, an you ain't got the pluck ter stand up ter yer own missus. Thet's wot I don't like.

BILL: I've got pluck enuff ter stand up ter you!

TOM: 'Ave yer got pluck enuff ter stand a pint when we git art?

BILL: I'll stand a pint if you'll stand anuther.

TOM: Right chew aw. Then we'll 'ave anuther jaw.

BILL: Thet's orl right, ser long as yer let my missus be. I don' like it, I tell yer stright. This *is* King's Crorss?

Another Single-week Sporting Contest—£500 for 1, 2 and 3. See page 36.

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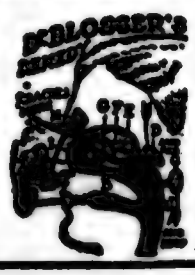

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JOHN BULL'S VARIETY TURNS.

"I AM A MELANCHOLY MAN."

Sung with great success by Bonar Law.

I am a melancholy man,
  Disgusted with my lot;
    For since Good Luck
    Gave me the chuck
  I've fairly gone to pot!
Years back, in Glasgow City,
  When iron was my trade,
In commerce I was gritty,
  And a nice fortune made:
But since I took to politics
My luck can be described as "nix"!

Patter: Funny thing, but as soon as ever I joined the Tory party in the House of Commons as Member for Glasgow (Blackfriars) the luck of the party began to wane. Some people say that my representing Glasgow made the glass go down. Of course, it didn't go down all at once, but fell slowly from Set Fair to Change, and then from Change to Stormy, and then a deluge of Radicals pretty well swamped us. True, I sat for a little while on the Treasury bench as Parliamentary Secretary of the Board of Trade. But what's that? Here am I, the Leader of the Unionist party, and yet I have never drawn more than fifteen-hundred a year from the Public Exchequer! S'awful!

Since then I've sadly sat upon
  The Opposition bench,
    Trying to snare
    The Premier,
  And office from him wrench.
When Balfour gave the job up
  I thought my chance had come,
But, curse him! he *will* bob up,
  Which always strikes me dumb;
For, when it comes to eloquence,
His art excels my commonsense!

Patter: It's beastly unfair of Balfour, when you come to think of it. He had a long enough innings, carried out his bat, and got a jolly good round of applause from the spectators, and yet every now and again he must come out to the wicket, shove me aside, and send a ball up. Of course, he always bowls a puzzler that gets up and makes Asquith duck, and then he goes back to the pavilion for a drink, so to speak, whilst I have to remain bowling leg-breaks and underhand twisters that Asquith can do anything he likes with!

It makes me melancholy, for
  If we don't force the pace
    'Twill be a score
    Of years, or more,
  Ere I get Asquith's place!
The sort of premier I shall be
  I scarcely know myself;
But that thought doesn't trouble me—
  I'm keen to touch the pelf—
For that is (as we play the game)
The party politician's aim.

Patter: I've tried all sorts of things to make me cheerful, but none of them works. I ought to have stuck to the iron trade. That's what I ought to have done. Why, even the caricaturists can see I've got the hump. They never sketch me without making me look like a Rowton House derelict who doesn't know where to find fourpence for the next night's doss. And they're not far out. That's what I feel like, to tell you the truth.

PALMISTRY HINTS.

An inky stain on the first finger of the right hand is a sign that you push a pen for a living. It is not dangerous, unless you start copying signatures on cheques.

A yellow mark on the thumb and forefinger indicates that you make life a beastly fag.

Little red marks on the skin of a slavey means that she has too many chaps.

Diamond rings on a poor girl's hand prove that she has a man under her thumb.

A red stain on the thumb and forefinger of the boy of five means that he will help himself through life.

"TIZ" for Aching, Sore, Tired Feet

TIZ is grand for puffed-up, tender, perspiring feet and burning corns.

"Ah, Boys! TIZ is the thing!"

People who are forced to stand on their feet all day know what sore, tender, perspiring burning feet mean. They use TIZ, and TIZ cures their feet right off. It keeps feet in perfect condition. TIZ is the only remedy in the world that draws out all the poisonous exudations which puff up the feet and cause tender, sore, tired, aching feet. It instantly stops the pain in corns, hard skin and bunions. It's simply glorious. Ah! how comfortable your feet feel after using TIZ. You'll never limp or draw up your face in pain. Your shoes won't tighten and hurt your feet.

Get a 1/1½ box of TIZ now from any chemist's or stores. Just think! a whole year's foot comfort for only 1/1½.

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?

Every copy of John Bull bears upon its cover a distinctive number, and every week FIFTY of such numbers will be drawn and published in the following issue.

To each of the holders of copies of John Bull *of specified date*, bearing any of such numbers, we will, upon production within seven days of publication (a reasonable extension will be allowed to foreign and Colonial claimants) of a sufficient portion of the cover to identify the date and number, pay the sum of ONE GUINEA in return for his using his best endeavour for one week to increase our circulation. Before the money is paid we require a report of all the work done.

Mr. J. BAILEY, 46, Tyrrel Road, East Dulwich, S.E. April 4th. No. 222,937.

Mr. G. H. ROBINSON, 30, Falconar Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. March 21st. No. 809,773.

Mr. WILLIAM RICHARDS, 57, McGhie Street, Hednesford, Staffs. March 28th. No. 914,312.

Mr. A. GLADWELL, Mersea Road, Peldon, near Colchester, Essex. March 28th. No. 840,211.

Mr. ARTHUR DENT, 25, Derwent Street, Darlington. March 28th. No. 245,946.

Mr. LOUIS KRUPP, 73, Bignor Street, Hightown, Manchester. March 28th. No. 939,091.

Mr. H. G. ABBOTT, Brougham Terrace, West Hartlepool. March 28th. No. 812,375.

Mr. TOM NATTON, 2, Lyell Street, Scarborough. March 21st. No. 893,938.

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of April 18th:—

000261	189385	379999	608218	831327
035248	220190	414280	629171	861009
064201	223179	463849	666302	879890
070408	229829	484411	689452	916302
101092	238701	504238	709402	935671
110952	251174	513541	721771	971357
128731	271780	526899	724505	990131
129443	304098	539238	749065	A009574
145234	348879	579496	765118	A006318
172098	365941	590124	820439	A025105

The A prefixed to a drawn number indicates it is plus a million.

The Fifty Numbers in respect of this week will be announced in our next issue (published on April 29th).

MARY BULL.

EVERY FRIDAY. PRICE ONE PENNY.

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There is no waiting weeks for delivery when you go to their fine Salons—the stock is there. Altogether there is over £200,000 worth of Furniture to choose from and it is not necessary for them to keep you waiting while they make a duplicate of anything you may desire to buy, and I know you never could get better value.

NOW SEVEN BRANCHES.

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Inlaid Mahogany Writing Table, 3ft. 6in. wide—top covered in fine quality leather and fitted with drawers as illustrated.
£5 5s. 0d. (only).

Over 40,000 present customers is a splendid guarantee of the extraordinary value we give: quite 10% better than any other House in London. May we send you a copy of our Catalogue?

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Worth	Per Month			Worth	Per Month		
£10	£0	6	0	£100	£2	5	0
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60	1	8	0				

We give you credit without extra charge; we insure the Furniture against Fire free; and give every customer a Free Life Insurance Policy, whereby should the buyer die the Furniture at once becomes the property of the widow or children without further payment. Should you prefer to pay cash we allow an additional discount of 10 per cent.

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Queen Anne Style Mahogany SIDEBOARD fitted with brass backrail and curtain, beautifully finished and of the finest workmanship throughout.
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[illegible] High Street, Putney. 56 George Street, Croydon.
14, Southchurch Road, Southend.

HOURS OF BUSINESS, 9 to 8. OXFORD STREET, 9 to 8.

A. M. STEWART, Managing Director.

PITY THE POOR EDITOR!

GEMS FROM OUR LETTER BAG.

"I wish to know, how is it that novelists like Marie Corelli and Elliott O'Donnell, journalists like the late W. T. Stead, major-generals in the Army like Richardson, can have ideas regarding spiritualism and mental transmission, whilst persons of the working classes who maintain that they have been made mediums of these spiritualists and thought-readers are declared by the medical profession to be suffering from systemical delusions. There are other people besides inmates of the lunatic asylums who maintain that they can hear supernatural voices, yet because they have some social or literary standing they are looked upon as geniuses. Yet, when the working classes declared that their mental breakdown is due to hearing voices, which they declare is due to mental suggestion or in other words hypnotism, they are declared insane."

"I heard that in your John Bull book that you put in about 4 shillings, sum one and been askung you about I sent you a post card a bout 4 shillings but got no answer back a bout it I sent no address on it."

OUR "BULLETS" JUDGING.

Mr. G. Hornby, of 42, Coram Street, W.C., writes:—

I should like to express my appreciation of the interview given me this morning. Having a little business to transact in Long Acre, I deemed it opportune to take advantage of your offer to see the "Bullets" judging. So promptly—with my friend—in we went. We were not kept waiting a minute, but with another gentleman (a stranger to us, and who incidentally turned out to be a North countryman, moreover, another diligent Searcher after the Truth) we were conducted straight to the "Bullets" Judging Dept. Arrived there, we were courteously received by the Manager—or so I took him to be—who gave us a detailed explanation of the method of judging, and welcomed any questions we cared to ask, and these were not a few. Being a persistently unsuccessful competitor since No. 2 Competition—amongst the big prizes, I mean, as I've landed several Consolation Prizes—I naturally entered the building with an enquiring mind. Well, I came away satisfied that every "Bullet" sent in gets its chance, the system of every one getting a double scrutiny precluding any likelihood of a coupon being overlooked. Another matter that appealed to me was, that where a competitor sends in a coupon that is an absolutely careless one—some rule disregarded, through insufficient care being taken in the making out of the coupon, I mean—the coupon is returned *together with the competitor's postal order*, and his mistake pointed out. We saw some of these marked for return. Upon reflection, I'm driven to the conclusion that the coupons are judged on their merits, and my attempts hitherto have been like some gee-gees I wot of—not good enough. However, with the pathetic instance of Bruce and the Spider well in my mind, I'm still in hopes of "pulling out a plum." I register this my impression after a careful examination of the system and you are welcome to make what use you like of it.

We shall be pleased to afford similar facilities to any reader desirous of making a tour of inspection.

OUR 77th "BULLETS" WINNER.

Mr. Ewart Wise, of 34, High Street, Brecon, the winner of our 77th "Bullets" Competition, writes:—

I am now doing that which I least anticipated in acknowledging receipt of your cheque for the handsome sum of £500. The first intimation I had of my success was a begging letter from a man who assured me he would shortly be among your Human Documents. I at once sent for my John Bull, and well—your readers can guess the rest. I am a hairdresser, 30 years of age, having had a business of my own for 3 years. My wife and I have been competing in "Bullets" only, starting at No. 30, during which time we consider we have been very successful, for in addition to numerous smaller prizes, my wife received £2 10s. only two months ago. I celebrated my "Joy Day" by putting my customers on the "Free" instead of the "Black List."

I might mention that a reproduction of the cheque is being shown this week at the Electric Theatre, giving you a slight idea of the enthusiasm created in our small but pretty town of Brecon. Again thanking you and wishing your paper and the "Straight Competition" an endless course.

While brushing his customers, Mr. Wise has evidently been polishing up his own wits, and few will begrudge him his handsome reward.

Berkeley

Loose-Cover Easy Chairs

THE Berkeley Loose-Cover Easy Chair is specially designed for Bedrooms and the Drawing Room. It is dainty in appearance, yet strongly constructed upon a sound Birchwood frame. The sides and back are gently curved, giving extreme comfort, and the seat is sprung with best steel-coppered springs

covered in Casement Cloth and fitted with a charming Loose Cover in Cretonne of your own selection. The range of materials is delightful in its variety of colourings. This loose cover can be slipped on or off the chair for washing, and the chairs can be used without the cover if desired. As a supreme guarantee it is sold on the

MONEY BACK PRINCIPLE.

On receipt of 2/6 with order we will send the chair, carefully packed and carriage paid, direct to your door in England or Wales, and if it is not completely satisfactory you may return the chair at our expense, and we will refund your money in full. Send postcard to-day for patterns of Cretonnes. Sent Post free with full particulars.

27/6 COMPLETE WITH LOOSE COVER.
Or 2/6 with order and balance 4/- monthly.

H. J. SEARLE & Son, Ltd., Easy Chair Specialists.
Dept. J.B. 70-78. OLD KENT ROAD, LONDON, S.E.
(Established 18-7.) Telephone: 1814 City.

TRY the new mixture made by Taddy's who have been blending choice tobaccos since the reign of George II.

TADDY'S
LONDON MIXTURE

Always smoke Taddy's Tobacco. The finest tobacco in the best blend.

London Mixture is packed in 1-oz. and 2-oz. packets and in 2-oz. ¼-lb and ½-lb tins. 8d. per ounce.

UNANIMOUS DECISION *in* FAVOUR *of* SHAVALLO

"For real Shaving Comfort and Luxury, John Knight's Shavallo has no equal. It is British-made and Best."

Absolutely pure, daintily clean in use, SHAVALLO soothes and softens the skin, making the Morning Shave a Pleasure. SHAVALLO is DIFFERENT from other Shaving Soaps and Creams.

Will you test these claims by send ng to-day Six Penny Stamps for Trial Tube to—

JOHN KNIGHT, LIMITED
(Dept. J.B.) LONDON, E.
Soapmakers by appointment to H.M. King George V.
In White Ivorine Tubes 6d. & 1/- Round Cakes 6d.

A Free £10,000 Sweepstake

MR. PATRICK O'BRIEN'S BOLD ENTERPRISE.

I have an important announcement to make. Lately there has been a good deal of nonsense in the papers about Swiss Sweepstakes. It is true it has not related to Lucerne—where my business is now conducted—and that, so far as Geneva is concerned, the facts were grossly exaggerated. For instance, I know that the great "John Bull" Derby Sweep, which last year I had the honour of managing, and which is this year in the hands of the big firm of Smallman and Terry, of Geneva, will most certainly be carried through to the end, and my own view is that ultimately the leading firms will be officially recognised, and that only the "wrong 'uns" will be cleared out. That is what we should all like to see. In the meantime, there is no difficulty about complying with the requirements of the various Cantonal authorities. In Lucerne, however, the question does not arise.

And now for my announcement. There can be no question that the recent scare has done a certain amount of harm to Sporting Sweepstakes, and I am determined to do my best to counteract it. As I have already intimated, it is not my intention this year to enter into competition with the "John Bull" Derby Sweep—with its £50,000 Guaranteed Prize Fund. To do so would be futile. So far as the Derby is concerned, it holds the field. But I have other projects on hand; and in order to popularise them I have resolved upon the bold experiment of giving my clients

A FREE CHANCE IN A £10,000 SWEEP

And I am lodging the full amount of the Prize Fund in the hands of the Editor of JOHN BULL, who will personally superintend the draw.

If the matter interests you, write me for particulars—not forgetting that the postage to Lucerne is 2½d. for letters, and 1d. for Postcards. Simply address:

Mr. Patrick O'Brien, Lucerne, Switzerland.

Telegrams: "O'Brien, Lucerne."

Bull's Eyes.

Notes of Interrogation :—

Have all the killjoys migrated to Hull?

Shouldn't the I. L. P. be renamed the 'E. L. P.?

Doesn't Lloyd George's throat always "give trouble"?

Won't General Huerta receive a "salute-ary" lesson?

Does Dean Inge really think that a "good time" is "bad"?

Are they selling a book of the "words" at His Majesty's Theatre?

Is Bombardier Wells afraid that the "Coffey" may be a bit too "hot"?

Is "Two Lovely Black Eyes" now Mr. George Mitchell's favourite song?

Can't the Government always find the man for the "job" and *vice versa*?

Will the proposed inquiry into the Ulster "pogrom" be "judicial" or "judicious"?

• • •

"Poetry is a gift," we read. Yet most editors won't even take it at that.

• • •

Skirts, we hear, are to be shorter than ever. We shall have to call them "shirts" soon.

• • •

"Love is like salt," says a writer. No wonder the lover so often finds himself "in the soup."

• • •

Mr. Paul Taylor objects to the word "unsensed." He is, in fact, quite "insensed" about it.

• • •

The aeroplane hat is the latest. Girls who cannot afford the elaborate ones will have to biplane.

• • •

The Sunderland man who mistook the police station for his hotel went there for a rest, and got it.

• • •

"Should Head Teachers Teach?" asks a headline. They'll expect the Government to govern next.

• • •

Archway won a race at Birmingham on Easter Monday. Couldn't the other horses get through?

• • •

The headline, "The Missing Meat," certainly suggests that another railway sandwich has been sold.

• • •

"Account Rendered," is the name of a forthcoming play. We hope the author won't receive a check.

• • •

The fact that Pentonville Prison is now full does not matter; there is no great demand for accommodation.

• • •

"Should kinema attendants be tipped?" asks someone. No, it is quite enough to have to tip the seats.

• • •

An umbrella that whistles has been patented. Men who do not keep an office boy would find it useful.

• • •

Oil deposits are reported to have been found in Somaliland. As usual, we suppose, they will be made light of.

• • •

A Strand reprobate, on hearing that lemonade is to cost more, remarked, "We must grin and beer it." He escaped.

• • •

Pegtop trousers are to be the coming fashion. An enquirer asks if they should be "kept up" with a bit of string.

• • •

Ireland, we are told, produces fast horses and fair women. For Heaven's sake, Mr. Printer, don't transpose the two.

• • •

The pig industry of Great Britain, it appears, is threatened. It is, of course, important that we should "save our bacon."

• • •

"The Flute of Arcady," a serial is called. We can hear the reader who does not care for fiction murmuring "Blow it."

• • •

A man charged with expectorating in a policeman's face was surprised at being sent to prison. Did he only expect a rating?

• • •

A Texas bigamist, faced in court with eight of his wives, became partially paralysed. His mothers-in-law would have finished him.

• • •

There is a young lady of Kieft,
Whose temperature passes belief,
For it reads, one, two, two,
And if that is quite true,
Of love letters she'll have a sheaf.

Printer's Pie.

(The Work of the "Devil.")

"Evening News" (Portsmouth) :—

"Alderman John Dummer, who has been unwell for some time, has gone to Bournemouth to RECIPROCATE."

"Daily Mail" heading :—

"Mrs. Drummond's NON-STOP speech in INSTALMENTS."

"Evening Express" (Liverpool) :—

"The wreckage was carried from the line and deposited in an adjoining field. FORTUNATELY there was an outbreak of fire."

"Telegraph" (Grimsby) :—

"A married woman . . . complained that the defendant knocked her down, and BEFORE SHE COULD GET UP she knocked her down AGAIN."

Mr. Samuel Chapman, prospective Unionist candidate for Greenock (according to the *Greenock Telegraph* report) :—

"They knew that the Irish Nationalists would either by legislation or by acts of administration put them under the JOKE of such tyranny that flesh and blood, body and soul, could not stand it."

"Daily Record and Mail" :—

"Robert Adam, a labourer, of Storie Street, Paisley, was charged yesterday with having in his house on 2nd April seven ADULTS over TEN YEARS, and ONE UNDER TEN."

"Nottingham Guardian" :—

"Everybody who likes ANIMAL shows will enjoy watching Gautier's talented ponies, and listening to the humorous sallies of WILLIAMS and WARDEN."

Thornton Coal Association Limited's handbill :—

"All requirements in house coal, steam coal, gas coke. WELSH anthracite coal, from all the leading WEST RIDING collieries."

"Red Letter" :—

"'Loyal, loving heart—mine!' and Polly let her eyes DROP FROM HER FACE, and looked up into Dorothy Deane's clear honest eyes."

Advertisement of Mr. Allan Herbert, Auctioneer, Andover, published in the *Newbury Weekly News* :—

"Household Furniture, comprising 4 Cart Horses, 3 Superior Dairy Cows."

"Northern Daily Telegraph" advertisement :—

"Just forfeited. Lady's 9 ct. Gold Bar Bracelet, pretty design, 22s. 6d. Scholes, Queen's Park Road."

"Favourite Comic" :—

"In a flash Brand had thrown aside his clubs, and dropping on his knees beside the silent motionless form, he placed his ear above the girl's heart. But no reassuring throb sounded—life was INSTINCT—the girl was dead!"

"Western Guardian" :—

"Frederick Rendell, fish hawker, of 29, Teign Street, Teignmouth, was PAID 2s. 6d. for using obscene language."

"The Times" in an article on the royal visit to Paris :—

"In the Salon d'Arcades . . . . will be signed the 'Livre d'or,' . . . . Upon its page appears the handwriting of every Monarch of EUROPE, with the EXCEPTION of the German and Austrian Emperors, the Sultan of Turkey, and the SHAH of PERSIA."

"Star's" Redhill Correspondent :—

"A bullock was being driven through the village of Outwood, near Redhill, this morning when he RAN AMOK, and REFUSED TO MOVE."

"Eastern Evening News" :—

"A young Russian, possessing 24 fingers and toes, has been examined by the Paris School of Medicine. Each of his hands and feet has an additional finger or toe normally constituted and PERFECTLY DETACHED."

Half-a-crown is paid to the sender of every item published in this column. Should more than one competitor call attention to the same blunder, the amount will be forwarded to the sender of the first letter opened. In the case of newspaper cuttings sufficient must be forwarded to identify the name of the journal and date of issue. Envelopes to be marked "Printer's Pie" in the left-hand top corner.

Result of Our Eighteenth Football Forecast. See page 5.

OUR NEW SUMMER COMPETITION

The Football Season being now practically at an end, we commence this week a series of Great Cricket Contests—with huge cash prizes to be won. Our Cricket Competitions will be on precisely the same lines as our Football Contests, so that football followers, as well as enthusiasts of the great summer pastime, can enter, and have an equal opportunity of winning.

NO FEES
NO
SCORES
REQUIRED

WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO

is to forecast the results of the Cricket matches to be played on dates between May 11th and May 25th.

Before making your forecasts read our Special Method of marking the coupon, as explained by Rule 1.

Matches commenced and unfinished count as draws. If both sides score an equal number of runs the match will be regarded as being drawn. Matches not commenced at all, not a single ball being bowled, will be ignored. Thus

ABANDONED MATCHES MAKE NO DIFFERENCE.

£1,000 will be paid to the Competitor sending us an entrance form giving a correct forecast of all the matches given. Should it happen that no entrance form be received containing all the correct results we shall award the huge cash prize of £500 to the competitor whose coupon shows one error only. In the event of the £1,000 or £500 not being won, we shall pay £150 to the competitor sending in the most correct forecasts, whatever the number. In addition, we shall pay a cash prize of £50 for the most correct forecast sent on a Mauve Coupon taken from *Mary Bull*. This is a distinct and additional prize—by using a Mauve Coupon the sender has the opportunity of winning not only the £1,000, £500, or £150, but also an extra £50.

£200 MUST BE WON.

The competition is one of skill, and a test of knowledge of cricket form. Competitors should make a point of studying the Cricket columns of the daily papers.

Our elaborate checking arrangements and our special method of marking the coupon safeguard the interests of our competitors in every way.

Our Competition Department is now under the personal supervision of "MeW.," the well-known Sporting writer, late of the "Morning Leader" and "Daily Chronicle."

As a guide to competitors we give with the coupon on page ii. of cover last year's results of the matches we have selected for this Competition, together with a duplicate Coupon, provided solely for the convenience of competitors in keeping a record of their entries. It must on no account be sent in.

SCOTTISH READERS MAY ENTER.

The

COUPON

will be found

on

PAGE ii. of COVER.

READ THESE RULES CAREFULLY.

1. To safeguard the interests of our competitors we have adopted the following rule for marking the Entrance Form:—If you predict the Home Team will win, put a X in the Home Column; if you give the Away Team to win, put a X in the Away Column. For a Draw put a X in the Draw Column.
2. Having done this, write in ink (typewriting or pencilling will not do) your name and address in the space provided, cut out the Entrance Form, and address it to "JOHN BULL," 25, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C., mark envelope in top left-hand corner Cricket Competition No. 1, and post to reach us not later than *first post* Monday, May 11th, but please send early to facilitate the work of examination.
3. The £1,000 cash prize will be awarded to the competitor whose Entry Form contains the correct results of all the matches, as published in the *Sporting Life*.
4. In the event of no Entrance Form containing all correct results, £500 will be paid to the competitor whose Coupon shows one error only. In the event of the £1,000 or £500 not being won, £150 will be awarded to the sender of the Entrance Form containing the nearest correct forecast. In addition a distinct cash prize of £50 will be awarded for the most correct forecast on a MAUVE COUPON taken from *Mary Bull*. If the sender of a mauve coupon should win or share the £1,000, the £500, or the £150, the *Mary Bull* prize will be awarded to the sender of the *next* most correct forecasts sent on a mauve coupon. In the event of the £1,000 or £500 prizes being won, the £150 prize will, of course, not be awarded. The £50 mauve coupon prize will be paid in any event.
5. No responsibility will be accepted by the Editor for the loss or non-delivery of any effort, and no correspondence will be entered into, neither will interviews be granted. But the utmost care will be taken of all coupons received.
6. The Editor's published decision on all matters relating to the competition is final and legally binding, and competitors may enter only on this understanding.
7. Any effort on which any alteration of any description has been made will be disqualified. Entrance Forms must be cut, not torn out.
8. In the event of a tie or ties in this competition the £1,000, the £500, or the £150 prize, as well as the special £50 Mauve Coupon prize, will be equally divided.

THE CLOSING DATE IS MONDAY, MAY 11.

£50 FOR A MAUVE COUPON £50

For the present Cricket Contest we shall award a distinct prize of £50 for the best forecast on a "Mary Bull" Mauve Coupon. This is an additional prize, the sender of the Mauve Coupon having the opportunity of winning not only the £1,000, the £500, or the £150, but also an extra £50. The first Mauve Coupon appears in this week's issue of "Mary Bull" on sale Friday next, April 24th.

You can send in as many Coupons as you like.

After you have filled up your entries for this competition, turn to page 34 where you will find particulars of "Bullets," Over 5,000 prizes are to be won this week. A first prize of £500 in cash is offered for the best "Bullet" received. In addition, twenty special 1 day prizes of £10 and £5 each are to be won this week besides many other handsome prizes.

JOHN BULL £50,000 DERBY SWEEP. Will readers please bear in mind that we cannot either supply or reply to applications for books of tickets for this sweepstake; nor can we act as agents for receiving and forwarding money for tickets. All communications *must* be addressed direct to Messrs. Smallman and Terry, Geneva, Switzerland.

"John Bull's" Letter Bag.

[The EDITOR replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when forwarding cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?

AUTHORS and ARTISTS *submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write name and address upon the back of their work. The Editor cannot accept any responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work* WHEN STAMPED ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS ATTACHED TO THE MANUSCRIPT.

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., *as, though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be forwarded in the first instance.*

LETTERS *must be addressed to the Editor or the Publisher, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Publishing matters.* FINANCIAL, INSURANCE, LEGAL *and* SPORTING *inquiries should be addressed to the Financial, Insurance, Legal or Sporting Editor, and, except in the case of the last named, must each be accompanied by a postal order for a shilling. All communications should be directed to* 93, LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.

GENERAL.

R. H. (Warrington).—You say you have written to the Manager of the Warrington Palace and Hippodrome, complaining that one of the gods found sport in spitting on you three times, and that he has ignored your letter. If your letter was courteous, his silence is certainly discourteous.

E. A. Le M. (London, N.).—The remark of the coroner that "They eat cat's meat in France, don't they?" was uncalled for. Being a coroner, perhaps he thinks he has a right to sit on anybody.

S. T. (Southampton).—Something is better than nothing. The description of Mr. Hirst as an "independent" was that of a local newspaper. We quite agree that even the arrangement ultimately forced from the Tories was by no means a fair one.

"Done" (W. Hartlepool).—Will you first tell us how you came into possession of a postal order crossed and made payable to Leslie, Murray and Co., Switzerland?

"Will. Walt" (Coventry).—Be assured that the statement of the Salvation Army debater, that we attacked the Salvation Army out of spite, because we tried and failed to get a good position in it, is a philological inexactitude.

E. H. (nr. Hull).—It appears to you that our letter to the King is "a bit of flunkeyism." By way of returning the compliment, it appears to us that your remark is a bit of impertinence.

"Tin Hat" (Glasgow).—"Three cheers for the Business Government League's success!" Sir, we hear them ringing.

J. W. E. (Rhywrey?).—Once again, for your especial benefit, we hereby state that "the Church of England is not, in any strict sense, maintained by the State."

J. S. (Brentwood).—Our advice to you, on your statement of the case, is to warn Todd and Son, 6, Endlesham Road, London, S.W., that the watch lies at your house at their risk, that it is not what it was represented to be, and that you decline to pay for it.

J. D. H. (Plaistow).—You should not send original documents. For the moment we cannot trace the receipt of those sent to us, but we have made a note in case they should turn up in the course of sorting our vast correspondence.

A. C. H. (Norwich).—"'Wily Wieland on the wheedle' has, since Sheffield, migrated to Leicester." Your note is noted.

M. S. (Saltash).—Glad we have rescued you from the slough of Party politics. Don't let what you have thought of us in the past worry you. The man who never made a mistake never made anything else.

H. W. (Needham Market).—You certainly cannot do better than give away your copies of JOHN BULL when done with. But the difficulty is to find people who have not already copies of their own.

H. G. (York Road).—We believe the Practical Correspondence College to be quite *bona fide*.

Mrs. A. C. (Wallingford) and "Geronimus" (Everton Village).—Please send us your full name and address, as these particulars are necessary for the investigation of the matter.

"Tommy" (West Kensington).—What a dull chap you are! Don't you see that we were simply pulling the legs of the Party politicians, and pointing out that, if the Unionists were sincere in their description of Mr. Asquith, they ought not to have given him a walk-over at East Fife? We observe you do not give your surname—is it "Rot"?

R. T. A. (Brighton).—It is amusing to note that the notorious charlatan, Clay Burton Vance begins the piffle he sent to your wife with the words: "Dear Madam, you don't know me, but I know you." As it happens, we know *him*. He is a shadow of a Yankee shark, named Elmer Sidney Prather, who preys upon the credulity of foolish people.

J. C. L. (Cheetham).—If you decide to send 10s. 6d. to the Research Co., of 131, St. Domingo Road, Liverpool, for their "speedy, safe, home cure" for psoriasis, consider yourself a fit subject for the Mental Deficiency Bill.

N. H. (Almondbury).—We note that Hugh McKean, the Mail Order shark, is now offering "slightly soiled courses of instruction" to his prospective victims at 5s. 6d. a time. We always said it was a dirty business.

"Phyllis" (East Ham).—You must not worry because the word "religiosity" which we used in a recent issue is not to be found in the dictionary. You are only 12, but you will learn some day that all the words in the dictionary were first invented by man, and that there is not the slightest reason why they should not be added to.

E. M. (Bethnal Green).—You do not state the name of the firm at 2 and 4, Cambridge Road, Mile End, but whoever they are they should put your mangle right or supply you with another. Of course, we are not aware of the quality goods you are paying for.

"Disgusted" (Pimlico).—Can't see sufficient in your complaint against the Y.M.C.A. to catch hold of.

"Night Hawk" (Headingley).—If to-day more than 90,000 professional artistes owe their success to the initial training of the correspondence lessons of the International Dramatic Academy, Kensington, all we can say is, that there must be about 89,000 more successful professional artistes than we have ever heard of. Perhaps they include performing beasts and birds?

C. H. L. (Winchfield).—It is letters like yours which hearten us.

"Constant Reader" (Kilmarnock).—As the British Linen Co. of 112, New Oxford Street, W.C., sent you the handkerchiefs voluntarily on approval, you are under no obligation to incur the cost of postage in sending them back, and should laugh at their bluffing demands for payment.

F. G. (Birmingham).—We have not yet read William de Morgan's "When Ghost Meets Ghost," and, of course, are not likely to now that you tell us there is not only a Chapter 0., but several other naughty ones.

A. T. (Rock Ferry) inquires about the genuineness of Stuart and Ward, of Scovell Road, London, the "missing heir" fee-snatchers. He adds: "I have not sent them the 1s. 6d. asked for." We should hope not, indeed.

W. F. (Bournemouth).—The Natural Cancer Cure Co., of 298, Twickenham, is a quack concern, and best avoided.

H. G. J. H. (Wood Green, N.).—Our advice is to enclose a stamped envelope when sending your payments to the furnishing company. It is far more important for you to obtain your receipts than to save a penny stamp.

G. T. R. (Bayswater).—Poem *re* suffragette outrage on the Rokeby Venus in the National Gallery to hand. The line, "When with that axe you did the deed," is almost as beautiful as if we said, "When with that pen you did the screed."

G. H. J. (Toronto).—The *Times* Book Club, Oxford Street, London, would doubtless be able to supply you with "The Life and History of the Late Dan Leno."

W. S. H. (Manchester).—Evidently the lady who, after accusing you of saying "Good-night" to her when you did not, used the language you describe, is no gentleman.

"Winsome" (Westminster).—Letter incomprehensible. Anything gone wrong with your works?

"Devon's Border" (Dalwood).—Thanks for your appreciation of *Mary Bull*. We ourselves think her charming.

H. T. (Islington) and Others.—Complain to the Gas Light and Coke Company, and insist that they put right the defect which they say causes the gas escape. If they don't do so, the inference will be obvious, and you would have some evidence to sue them for the recovery of the money which you are of opinion they have wrongfully appropriated.

G. R. (Leeds).—Your appreciation is appreciated.

A. R. (Grays).—We do not advise people to allow quacks to interfere with their eyes. They are invariably incompetent, and, whatever they charge, will probably do harm instead of good.

G. M. H. (Esmond).—During the last few weeks you have been inundated with letters from sympathetic gentlemen offering to lend you money on easy terms. Borrow £5,000 apiece from them.

G. W. (Clapham).—Evidently R. Southall and Co., 88, Kirkstall Road, Leeds, the mail-order boots people, are a firm to be avoided. If they do not return you the postal order for the boots they have not sent to you, sue them.

Now for Cricket! £1,000 for a Forecast. £200 Must be Won. See page 29.

"Delta" (Narrabri, N.S.W.).—The "Roberts Morley" (23, Bedford Street, Strand) lucky-stone swindle is like the Captain Kand lucky-stone swindle. Have nothing to do with him or it.

Sam S. (Belfast).—"If the present Home Rule Bill is forced through Parliament there will be a bloody row." There will also be an awful noise if it isn't.

Arthur George Jervis, Baron Scalisi (St. John's Wood).—re yours "About the prostitution of Art In England and the Imposition of the leading actor-managers on the public," no doubt hundreds of plays sent to actor-managers are not read. You are by no means alone in your misfortunes.

R. J. (Cambridge).—As we have said many times, they are a dirty firm, and get the signatures by grubbing in such things as dust-bins and emptyings of waste-paper baskets.

"Car" (Willesden Green).—Cannot say whether or not you would be able to obtain a situation as chauffeur after a 3½-guinea course at a "School of Motoring." All we can tell you is that we have heard of people who haven't been able to do so.

G. C (Larkhall).—"This article is a true rendering of what has actually transpired; I am sending the Cock of the North to McKinnon Wood, Bonar Law, Keir Hardie the same. And I herewith hold myself open to debate merits of same." Tush, tush, mon! Hae ye ganged aff yer heid?

A. B. C. (Nottingham).—The "comcal cartoon" you have thought out in your spare time is too crude. Paddy, for instance, looks as though he were trying to follow his nose with one foot while he travelled in the opposite direction with the other. Take a few lessons in drawing and send us another comical cartoon five years hence; we will then tell you how far you have progressed. It is advisable to use your own name for "Bullets."

W. T. (Weymouth).—We cannot publish an *ex parte* statement of "how the G.W.R. shifts a poor devil's few bits of furniture if he is not in a position to pay a private firm." There is a civil remedy, surely?

W. T. D. (Philog.).—It is obviously not "recognised" by the Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Board because it is a private concern. We haven't the slightest idea of the value of its teaching.

H. W. L. (Cricklewood).—Naturally, a great many people do "succeed" in Canada; that is to say, they make a living in conditions and circumstances which, more often than not, are crude and uncongenial. Our attitude is that thousands on thousands of unsuitable emigrants have been and are being lured to the Dominion, and that they do not, and cannot, hope to do any good there at all.

R. W. A. (Emsworth).—We note with regret that "the Secretary of State having carefully considered your application . . . can find no ground consistent with his public duty in advising his Majesty to interfere in your case."

"Mary L. S." (Newcastle-on-Tyne).—We always feel sorry when we reach questions like yours, for we know that by the time the answer appears it will have ceased to be useful. Not that we could have helped you much, for our answer now must be what it would have been then—Continue bombarding and worrying your Approved Society until you get satisfaction; it is all you can do. Insurance Act administration would discredit the business of a tripe saloon.

W. N. (Lewisham).—Your father-in-law sent a parcel of clothing to his son in Saskatoon, Canada, October 14th, 1910. Shortly afterwards he himself sailed to the Land of Promise. The parcel was delivered to its destination December 4th, 1913, three years and two months afterwards—nearly three years after the sender—with copies of "J.B." inside three years old. Better late than never.

"A Constant Reader."—An English girl may legally marry a Chinaman in this country, but what her position would be in China it is impossible to say. She might there be abandoned, or find herself treated as a "foreign devil" by her husband's native wife or wives. But whatever her fate she would deserve it, for entering into an unnatural contract.

R. C. (Victoria Park).—As you have dragged in Adam and Eve to support your contention that the nude is wicked, peradventure you will explain why we all come into the world in that state, and why humanity are not provided with some natural covering for their nakedness. In our opinion, to see evil in the nude is to insult the Creator.

"Subscriber" (Portsmouth).—"How to cook hedgehogs"?—First catch your hedgehog, pluck, draw, and quarter it, stew it with elephants' eggs, and roast before a slow fire, frequently basting it (the hedgehog) with pigeons' milk. Serve up, and then make a bee-line for your panel doctor.

"Chain" (Birmingham).—Don't worry yourself about the "Ancient Prayer" piffle. If the senders of these nauseating postcards could only be traced, something might be done to check the nuisance.

E. B. (Bangor) asks: "Can one councillor canvass another man to go on and trade, as a councillor." He can, but he shouldn't.

W. J. A. (Tullisbro').—You should not have troubled to post all that McKean claptrap to us. We know it almost by heart.

J. F. A. H. (Hounslow).—Why not find something more profitable to argue about? If we said the letter was an "l," some fool or other would probably turn it upside down and swear it was a "t."

A. D. (Newcastle).—You say that if we would let you have £5 "it would make all the difference." When our lending £5 is returned to us we will lend it to you, the first of next circuit.

A. E. (Southall).—Evidently they did not know whether he was dead or not. You see, a lot of the people appointed by Mr. Lloyd George to administer the Insurance Act don't look alive.

"Admirer" (Bristol).—We agree with you that hospital nurses are badly paid and shockingly overworked. We are always willing to consider definitely-stated grievances.

"Anon" (Walthamstow).—"Dear Editor,—Just a word to say I admire the high moral tone of your paper." Thank you; you cannot possibly admire it more than we do.

Mrs. G. H. (Oldham).—Our sympathies are with you. Better luck in the years to be.

M. J. B. (Cratloe).—"Several people are under the impression that the foot-and-mouth disease has been spread in Ireland for political purposes." If that is so, isn't it rather curious it hasn't affected the mouths of the politicians?

"Still Yawning" (Ashford).—And we don't wonder.

"Alpho" (Grimsthorpe).—We have continually advised readers against the firm. You will have to fight out the costume affair with them.

W. M. (Cleveland, U.S.A.).—"Thank you for your reply; it saved me about £18." Glad to have been of use to you.

"Benhad" (Little Waltham).—You realise now how foolish it is to sign documents without reading them. Don't take delivery of the map.

H. A. (Cuckfield).—Your sense of humour must be keener than ours. We do not perceive anything funny in the inscription.

F. C. H. (Bushey).—If you take our advice you will not have any dealings with the Central Tea Co., 5, Eastcheap, E.C., in its aspect as a rotation-bonus concern.

R. G. McV. (Semaphore, S.A.).—You think Mr. Bottomley is "the cleverest man in the world." Yet he has his troubles.

C. F. S. (St. M.-on-Thames).—There is little prospect of "bringing about a revision in the pensions of the old Civil Servants"—at present.

A. B. (Belfast).—Thanks for offer of the book you name at the low charge of 5s. Retain, it, however, for 100 years longer; then it may be worth at least sixpence more.

E. D. C. (Bedford Park).—Such matters at second hand cannot be ventilated in John Bull.

C. B. B. (Hordle).—You are right in saying that the "Dear Mr. ——" begging letter now sent out by some influential member of a charitable institution committee is an innovation. Such institutions must beg if they are to live, and the most influential beggar is naturally the most successful.

J. W. R. (London, W.).—Really, our dear sir, we are not a Post Office Directory, you know.

H. L. G. (near Swansea).—If your two young friends like to waste 7s. on a so-called cure for the smoking habit, why should you prevent them? If they are not cured by suggestion they will at least learn not to throw their money way on quacks in the future.

W. R. (Edgware Road).—You do not explain how it is that whilst you are in London, your luggage is still at Montreal. Consequently we cannot give you any advice.

"New Reader" (W. Lothian).—The Woolwich firm you mention is not reliable. We have returned the postcard as requested.

"Miner" (Lancs.).—"The utter hypocrisy of most 'religious' people sickens me." And us also.

J. N. R. (Middlesbrough).—And a very nice reference too! What is it you expect us to do in your affair with the tramway company?

"Augusta" (Great Portland Street).—Your last letter is as incomprehensible as your first.

A. T. W. (Gloucester).—We know no Colonial employment agents whom we care to recommend.

W. K. (Droitwich).—It is neither thoughtful nor complimentary to ask us to strain our eyes by reading letters written in pencil, and we are not disposed to do so.

B. S. N. (Colchester).—We congratulate you on your sense of humour if you can see anything to laugh at in the observation of the small boy, age four, which you have taken the trouble to repeat. It bored us to tears.

Thousands Delighted with the "John Bull" Pen. Get Yours NOW.

"John Bull's" Letter Bag.

[The EDITOR replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when forwarding cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?

AUTHORS and ARTISTS *submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write name and address upon the back of their work. The Editor cannot accept any responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work* WHEN STAMPED ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS ATTACHED TO THE MANUSCRIPT.

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., *as, though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be forwarded in the first instance.*

LETTERS *must be addressed to the Editor or the Publisher, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Publishing matters.* FINANCIAL, INSURANCE, LEGAL *and* SPORTING *inquiries should be addressed to the Financial, Insurance, Legal or Sporting Editor, and, except in the case of the last named, must each be accompanied by a postal order for a shilling. All communications should be directed to* 93, LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.

GENERAL.

E. H. (Warrington).—You say you have written to the Manager of the Warrington Palace and Hippodrome, complaining that one of the gods found sport in spitting on you three times, and that he has ignored your letter. If your letter was courteous, his silence is certainly discourteous.

E. A. LE M. (London, N.).—The remark of the coroner that "They eat cat's meat in France, don't they?" was uncalled for. Being a coroner, perhaps he thinks he has a right to sit on anybody.

S. T. (Southampton).—Something is better than nothing. The description of Mr. Hirst as an "independent" was that of a local newspaper. We quite agree that even the arrangement ultimately forced from the Tories was by no means a fair one.

"DONE" (W. Hartlepool).—Will you first tell us how you came into possession of a postal order crossed and made payable to Leslie, Murray and Co., Switzerland?

"WILL WALT" (Coventry).—Be assured that the statement of the Salvation Army debater, that we attacked the Salvation Army out of spite, because we tried and failed to get a good position in it, is a philological inexactitude.

G. H. (nr. Hull).—It appears to you that our letter to the King is "a bit of flunkeyism." By way of returning the compliment, it appears to us that your remark is a bit of impertinence.

"TIN HAT" (Glasgow).—"Three cheers for the Business Government League's success!" Sir, we hear them ringing.

J. W. E. (Rhywrey?).—Once again, for your especial benefit, we hereby state that "the Church of England is not, in any strict sense, maintained by the State."

J. S. (Brentwood).—Our advice to you, on your statement of the case, is to warn Todd and Son, 6, Endlesham Road, London, S.W., that the watch lies at your house at their risk, that it is not what it was represented to be, and that you decline to pay for it.

J. D. H. (Plaistow).—You should not send original documents. For the moment we cannot trace the receipt of those sent to us, but we have made a note in case they should turn up in the course of sorting our vast correspondence.

A. C. H. (Norwich).—"'Wily Wieland on the wheedle' has, since Sheffield, migrated to Leicester." Your note is noted.

M. S. (Saltash).—Glad we have rescued you from the slough of Party politics. Don't let what you have thought of us in the past worry you. The man who never made a mistake never made anything else.

H. W. (Needham Market).—You certainly cannot do better than give away your copies of JOHN BULL when done with. But the difficulty is to find people who have not already copies of their own.

H. G. (York Road).—We believe the Practical Correspondence College to be quite *bona fide*.

MRS. A. C. (Wallingford) and "GERONIMUS" (Everton Village).—Please send us your full name and address, as these particulars are necessary for the investigation of the matter.

"TOMMY" (West Kensington).—What a dull chap you are! Don't you see that we were simply pulling the legs of the Party politicians, and pointing out that, if the Unionists were sincere in their description of Mr. Asquith, they ought not to have given him a walk-over at East Fife? We observe you do not give your surname—is it "Rot"?

R. T. A. (Brighton).—It is amusing to note that the notorious charlatan, Clay Burton Vance begins the piffle he sent to your wife with the words: "Dear Madam, you don't know me, but I know you." As it happens, we know *him*. He is a shadow of a Yankee shark, named Elmer Sidney Prather, who preys upon the credulity of foolish people.

J. G. L. (Cheetham).—If you decide to send 10s. 6d. to the Research Co., of 131, St. Domingo Road, Liverpool, for their "speedy, safe, home cure" for psoriasis, consider yourself a fit subject for the Mental Deficiency Bill.

N. H. (Almondbury).—We note that Hugh McKean, the Mail Order shark, is now offering "slightly soiled courses of instruction" to his prospective victims at 5s. 6d. a time. We always said it was a dirty business.

"PHYLLIS" (East Ham).—You must not worry because the word "religiosity" which we used in a recent issue is not to be found in the dictionary. You are only 12, but you will learn some day that all the words in the dictionary were first invented by man, and that there is not the slightest reason why they should not be added to.

E. M. (Bethnal Green).—You do not state the name of the firm at 2 and 4, Cambridge Road, Mile End, but whoever they are they should put your mangle right or supply you with another. Of course, we are not aware of the quality goods you are paying for.

"DISGUSTED" (Pimlico).—Can't see sufficient in your complaint against the Y.M.C.A. to catch hold of.

"NIGHT HAWK" (Headingley).—If to-day more than 90,000 professional artistes owe their success to the initial training of the correspondence lessons of the International Dramatic Academy, Kensington, all we can say is, that there must be about 89,000 more successful professional artistes than we have ever heard of. Perhaps they include performing beasts and birds?

C. H. L. (Winchfield).—It is letters like yours which hearten us.

"CONSTANT READER" (Kilmarnock).—As the British Linen Co. of 112, New Oxford Street, W.C., sent you the handkerchiefs voluntarily on approval, you are under no obligation to incur the cost of postage in sending them back, and should laugh at their bluffing demands for payment.

F. G. (Birmingham).—We have not yet read William de Morgan's "When Ghost Meets Ghost," and, of course, are not likely to now that you tell us there is not only a Chapter 0., but several other naughty ones.

A. T. (Rock Ferry) inquires about the genuineness of Stuart and Ward, of Scovell Road, London, the "missing heir" fee-snatchers. He adds: "I have not sent them the 1s. 6d. asked for." We should hope not, indeed.

W. F. (Bournemouth).—The Natural Cancer Cure Co., of 298, Twickenham, is a quack concern, and best avoided.

H. G. J. H. (Wood Green, N.).—Our advice is to enclose a stamped envelope when sending your payments to the furnishing company. It is far more important for you to obtain your receipts than to save a penny stamp.

G. T. R. (Bayswater).—Poem re suffragette outrage on the Rokeby Venus in the National Gallery to hand. The line, "When with that axe you did the deed," is almost as beautiful as if we said, "When with that pen you did the screed."

G. H. J. (Toronto).—The *Times* Book Club, Oxford Street, London, would doubtless be able to supply you with "The Life and History of the Late Dan Leno."

W. S. H. (Manchester).—Evidently the lady who, after accusing you of saying "Good-night" to her when you did not, used the language you describe, is no gentleman.

"WINSOME" (Westminster).—Letter incomprehensible. Anything gone wrong with your works?

"DEVON'S BORDER" (Dalwood).—Thanks for your appreciation of *Mary Bull*. We ourselves think her charming.

H. T. (Islington) AND OTHERS.—Complain to the Gas Light and Coke Company, and insist that they put right the defect which they say causes the gas escape. If they don't do so, the inference will be obvious, and you would have some evidence to sue them for the recovery of the money which you are of opinion they have wrongfully appropriated.

G. R. (Leeds).—Your appreciation is appreciated.

A. R. (Grays).—We do not advise people to allow quacks to interfere with their eyes. They are invariably incompetent, and, whatever they charge, will probably do harm instead of good.

G. M. H. (Esmond).—During the last few weeks you have been inundated with letters from sympathetic gentlemen offering to lend you money on easy terms. Borrow £5,000 apiece from them.

G. W. (Clapham).—Evidently R. Southall and Co., 88, Kirkstall Road, Leeds, the mail-order boots people, are a firm to be avoided. If they do not return you the postal order for the boots they have not sent to you, sue them.

Now for Cricket! £1,000 for a Forecast. £200 Must be Won. See page 29.

"DELTA" (Narrabri, N.S.W.).—The "Roberts Morley" (23, Bedford Street, Strand) lucky-stone swindle is like the Captain Kand lucky-stone swindle. Have nothing to do with him or it.

SAM S. (Belfast).—"If the present Home Rule Bill is forced through Parliament there will be a bloody row." There will also be an awful noise if it isn't.

ARTHUR GEORGE JERVIS, BARON SCALISI (St. John's Wood).—re yours "About the prostitution of Art in England and the Imposition of the leading actor-managers on the public," no doubt hundreds of plays sent to actor-managers are not read. You are by no means alone in your misfortunes.

R. J. (Cambridge).—As we have said many times, they are a dirty firm, and get the signatures by grubbing in such things as dust-bins and emptyings of waste-paper baskets.

"CAR" (Willesden Green).—Cannot say whether or not you would be able to obtain a situation as chauffeur after a 3½-guinea course at a "School of Motoring." All we can tell you is that we have heard of people who haven't been able to do so.

G. C (Larkhall).—"This article is a true rendering of what has actually transpired: I am sending the Cock of the North to McKinnon Wood, Bonar Law, Keir Hardie the same. And I herewith hold myself open to debate merits of same." Tush, tush, mon! Hae ye ganged aff yer heid?

A. B. C. (Nottingham).—The "comcal cartoon" you have thought out in your spare time is too crude. Paddy, for instance, looks as though he were trying to follow his nose with one foot while he travelled in the opposite direction with the other. Take a few lessons in drawing and send us another comical cartoon five years hence; we will then tell you how far you have progressed. It is advisable to use your own name for "Bullets."

W. T. (Weymouth).—We cannot publish an *ex parte* statement of "how the G.W.R. shifts a poor devil's few bits of furniture if he is not in a position to pay a private firm." There is a civil remedy, surely?

W. T. D. (Philog.).—It is obviously not "recognised" by the Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Board because it is a private concern. We haven't the slightest idea of the value of its teaching.

H. W. L. (Cricklewood).—Naturally, a great many people do "succeed" in Canada; that is to say, they make a living in conditions and circumstances which, more often than not, are crude and uncongenial. Our attitude is that thousands on thousands of unsuitable emigrants have been and are being lured to the Dominion, and that they do not, and cannot, hope to do any good there at all.

R. W. A. (Emsworth).—We note with regret that "the Secretary of State having carefully considered your application . . . can find no ground consistent with his public duty in advising his Majesty to interfere in your case."

"MARY L. S." (Newcastle-on-Tyne).—We always feel sorry when we reach questions like yours, for we know that by the time the answer appears it will have ceased to be useful. Not that we could have helped you much, for our answer now must be what it would have been then—Continue bombarding and worrying your Approved Society until you get satisfaction; it is all you can do. Insurance Act administration would discredit the business of a tripe saloon.

W. N. (Lewisham).—Your father-in-law sent a parcel of clothing to his son in Saskatoon, Canada, October 14th, 1910. Shortly afterwards he himself sailed to the Land of Promise. The parcel was delivered to its destination December 4th, 1913, three years and two months afterwards—nearly three years after the sender—with copies of "J.B." inside three years old. Better late than never.

"A CONSTANT READER."—An English girl may legally marry a Chinaman in this country, but what her position would be in China it is impossible to say. She might there be abandoned, or find herself treated as a "foreign devil" by her husband's native wife or wives. But whatever her fate she would deserve it, for entering into an unnatural contract.

R. C. (Victoria Park).—As you have dragged in Adam and Eve to support your contention that the nude is wicked, peradventure you will explain why we all come into the world in that state, and why humanity are not provided with some natural covering for their nakedness. In our opinion, to see evil in the nude is to insult the Creator.

"SUBSCRIBER" (Portsmouth).—"How to cook hedgehogs"?—First catch your hedgehog, pluck, draw, and quarter it, stew it with elephants' eggs, and roast before a slow fire, frequently basting it (the hedgehog) with pigeons' milk. Serve up, and then make a bee-line for your panel doctor.

"CHAIN" (Birmingham).—Don't worry yourself about the "Ancient Prayer" piffle. If the senders of these nauseating postcards could only be traced, something might be done to check the nuisance.

E. B. (Bangor) asks: "Can one councillor canvass another man to go on and trade, as a councillor." He can, but he shouldn't.

W. J. A. (Millsbro').—You should not have troubled to post all that McKean claptrap to us. We know it almost by heart.

J. F. A. H. (Hounslow).—Why not find something more profitable to argue about? If we said the letter was an "l," some fool or other would probably turn it upside down and swear it was a "t."

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LEGAL.

W. S. C. (Canada).—The man appears to be liable to pay the money-lender in full, and the remaining creditors 10s. 0d. in the £. If the assets did not realise sufficient for this purpose, civil proceedings would probably be taken against him on his return to this country—perhaps in bankruptcy. He should get some friend to ascertain exactly what the position is, and then, if necessary, try to come to an amicable arrangement with the creditors.

"Dunce."—You cannot now renounce the Administration without the leave of the Court. You could apply to be relieved on the ground of ill-health. You would require the services of a solicitor, but should make a bargain with him beforehand as to his charges.

"Anxious" (Mon.).—As you did not repudiate the contract within a reasonable time after coming of age, it is doubtful what view the Court would take. It would probably be in your favour, but it would be safer to obtain employment outside the prescribed radius.

B. A. A.—The matter would be in the discretion of the Justices, but on the facts such discretion would not be exercised in the man's favour.

A. B. C. A. (Aberdare).—You are bound by the agreement and must pay. If the firm were to sue, you would be put to legal expense in addition. If you do not desire to continue with the course, you should try to come to an amicable arrangement.

E. A. P. (Lowestoft).—We cannot say what your exact rights are without seeing a copy of the agreement, but if the sanitary arrangements are such as you state, you should communicate with the authorities. They will soon make the landlord "get a move on him."

W. Casey (Kingsland).—No, you have no remedy in the case. Your employer was not bound to give any reason for discharging you.

A. W. A. (Woking).—We hope the divorce laws will be amended within the next twelve months. We cannot predict what the exact improvements will be. You must "wait and see."

B. M. G. (Clapton).—We do not think you have sufficient evidence to prosecute the man for stealing the ring. If you were to do so, and he were acquitted, he might bring an action for malicious prosecution and false imprisonment. The Insurance Company may pay you more than £10 if you hold out a little.

T. C. B. (Brook Green, W.).—As you paid for the electric light fittings in advance and had no estimate or agreement, you appear to have no remedy. But the electrician and the Jewish gentleman who imposed upon you deserve to have their lights put out.

FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE.

A Postal Order for 1s. must accompany each Financial Insurance Inquiry.

People's Trust.—Brynian.—This is simply a relief scheme for overloaded banks. Why accept 4 per cent. from these people when you can get 5½ per cent. or more on far better security? Philanthropy of this sort at 4 per cent. does not command our respect.

Tropical Exploration Syndicate.—Inquisitive.—Certainly not. There is no real market in the shares.

Ceylon Rubber, Tea, Co.—Shareholder.—It would be throwing good money after bad, and we think you should leave it alone.

Bifur (1910).—A. E. (Glasgow).—Nothing doing, and we are doubtful whether it can come to much, but there is just a chance if sufficient funds can be found for advertising. No price obtainable.

Cobalt Extension.—Critical.—You cannot possibly plead the Gaming Act and we are afraid you must stand the loss, but, we think, the firm will not press matters to extremes if you make a reasonable offer.

Zinc Corporation.—Alpha (London).—The shares are an excellent speculative investment, but we do not know the firm you mention. They are not members of the Stock Exchange.

Graaf Reinet Ostrich Farms.—Doubtful (Wales).—You cannot get out of the liability for calls except by proving fraud, which is very costly. In the circumstances we should say let the Company sue you, but probably they will not.

Greek Bonds.—Old Subscriber.—Not an investment we should recommend, but there is no occasion for immediate worry. Bearer bonds are passed from hand to hand without endorsement. If they get lost it is time enough to become anxious, but why anticipate trouble?

American Waterworks and Guarantee Company.—American (Liverpool).—Unless you join the reconstruction we are afraid your interest will be absolutely wiped out. If you can afford it take up the new Preference stock (35 per cent.), but in any case you should try to find the $5 assessment. The Company will come all right in time.

Bowerman's Press.—Scottish Bull.—Don't touch it.

London City and Midland Bank.—A. W. (Khartoum).—Perfectly safe; the splitting of the shares is rather favourable than otherwise and ought to put the price higher when conditions improve. Of course you have to face the possibility of a call, but it is extremely remote.

Mason and Sons.—H. S. (Birmingham).—You can find any number of things that will pay you equally well or better, and in which there is a market, so we should advise you to leave it alone.

Economic Motor Spirit.—Economin (Parkstone).—We are sorry you did not heed our warnings to have nothing to do with these shares. As they have been duly allotted to you, we are afraid you are liable for the calls in any event.

Melville, Glynn and Co. (Paris).—C. G. W. (Johannesburg).—We do not advise you to do business with this firm.

Nakamun Asphalt and Oil.—H. (Kent).—We have frequently warned our readers to have nothing to do with this concern.

Prudential Assurance Company.—A. M. (Hatfield).—It would be cheaper to pay the premium annually. The Reversionary Bonus addition is at the rate of 30s. per £100 policy, which is quite satisfactory.—Anon (Wallsend-on-Tyne).—The restoration of the original policies is a matter within the discretion of the Directors. You had better write the General Manager and point out that the new policy benefits are not as represented by the Agent and that you wish them to be cancelled and the old policies replaced.

Profits and Income Insurance Company.—Plym.—Established in 1901, the Company has made sound progress and appears now to have reached a well established position.

Insurance Companies.—W. H. C. (Liverpool).—(1) Scottish Indemnity.—We do not recommend. (2) British General Insurance Company.—Trustworthy. Position sound. (3) Regal Fire and Accident Company.—A young Company which must be regarded as being in the speculative stage of development. Possesses an influential directorate, and is, we believe, carefully managed. Recently made an appeal for Capital, the result of which has not been stated. (4) For taxicab insurance, apply to the Ocean Accident and Guarantee Corporation, Moorgate Street, London, E.C., or the Gresham Fire and Accident Society, St. Mildred's House, Poultry, London, E.C., the latter being a most progressive office under very capable management.

British Life Office.—F. C. (Barnsbury).—We do not recommend the House Purchase Certificates of this concern and cannot advise you to make the purchase you mention.

Befur Assurance Company.—E. H. (Nottingham).—The company are entitled to make the request you mention before paying the claim. You had better see a local solicitor, who will obtain Letters of Administration.

Royal London Auxiliary.—T. H. P. (Birmingham).—Established so recently as 1910, the Company has made fair progress and may develop into a successful undertaking. If you will send us the policy, we will examine its conditions and express our views on the second point you have raised relating to Surrender Values.

Liverpool Mutual Insurance Society (Shropshire).—The Accident Insurance Policy you enclose is an extraordinary document. It does not bear the signature of any Director or Officer, and states that the policy is "valid five years from date of issue." The methods of the Society appear to us to be so unusual that insurers would be well advised to satisfy themselves that the Society is able to fulfil its obligations. Apply for a copy of the last issued Annual Report and Statement of Accounts.

Annuity.—M. T. (Glasgow).—The office you mention is financially sound and transacts a large Annuity business. We are not very favourably impressed with the outlook for Canadian investments, and our fear is that over-speculation may tend to disorganise values. Before deciding apply for rates from the Equitable Life Assurance Society, Mansion House Street, London, E.C.

Borough of Finsbury Permanent Investment Building Society.—Enquirer.—There is no free market in the Shares, and, unless the Management can assist you, we fear you will find some difficulty in realising. Write them again and ask what prospect there is of a sale being effected and how soon. In the event of their reply not proving satisfactory, send us the documents and we will look into the matter.

Law Integrity Insurance Company.—Linda.—It is not an Office we should select.

Eagle Insurance Company.—F. B. B. (London, W.).—Although the writing down of securities reached a figure of considerable magnitude the safety of the contract you hold is, we think, beyond doubt. We can find no sufficient reason for recommending the surrender of the policy. Recent changes in the Management and Directorate indicate that a progressive policy is to be adopted, and a steady improvement in the fortunes of the Institution may be looked for.

Reliance Marine Insurance Company.—In a recent reply to a correspondent we referred to the Reliance Insurance Company and said that in our opinion it was not financially strong. This undertaking must not be confused with the old-established and well-known Reliance Marine Insurance Company, of Liverpool.

SPORTING.

Patrick O'Brien (Lucerne).—P. M. J. (West Kilbride).—We are glad to know that you are so satisfied with the way Mr. O'Brien has acted in the matter, but it is only what we should have expected. You will find an interesting announcement on another page.

Totalisator (Lucerne).—H. A. J. (Johannesburg).—This is a straightforward and reliable firm to deal with. We are sorry we have no information in regard to the Australian enterprise you mention.

"London Mail" Derby Sweep.—J. W. T. (Hitchin).—This is quite genuine. We have returned the ticket you sent us.—J. M. E. H. (Weston-super-Mare).—This is a guaranteed and not a subscription Sweepstake and we believe it is quite straight and above board. We are sorry we cannot give you any information in regard to the other enterprise you mention.—J. W. M. (Grantham).—We do not think you need be at all anxious. We are assured that the *London Mail* Sweepstake will be duly carried through.—G. T. (Stafford).—We are informed by Mr. Wm. Hammond, the Manager of the "London Mail" Derby Sweep, that "Jack Hammond," of Lucerne, has no connection with him. We note your experience, but why don't you deal only with those firms for whose *bona-fides* we can vouch?

John Bull Derby Sweep.—R. M. S. "Otranto," W. N. (Oakhampton, Queensland), T. R. (Sydney, N.S.W.), and Others.—Do not trouble about such "piffle."—William Tell.—We are sorry, but we are unable to deal with such detailed inquiries as those contained in your letter and must refer you to Messrs. Smallman and Terry, Geneva, who have the sole management of the Sweepstake.—L. P. B. (Norfolk).—In our opinion, it is immaterial from which books the tickets are taken. Each one stands the same chance.—A. E. W. (Camberley).—Only the counterfoils, containing the name and address of the sender, should be sent to Geneva with remittance.—Outspoken.—Messrs. Smallman and Terry state that the best form of remittance is by British postal order. You should, however, register your letter.—Sunloch.—There is no risk whatever of the Sweep being interfered with. We believe the other enterprise you mention is carried on in a *bona-fide* manner, but we have frequently called attention to their misleading circulars.—Brave.—Since you wrote us you have doubtless seen our issue of March 28th in which we said there is as little chance of the John Bull Derby Sweepstake being interfered with as of the Derby itself being stopped.

H. Diamond (Lucerne).—G. H. (Wandsworth).—We are glad to know that you are satisfied with the explanation you have received from Mr. Diamond, which we are sure is perfectly accurate.

Don't miss the Pen Coupon—On page iii of cover.

CITY NOTES.

(For Financial and Insurance Letter-Box, see Letter Bag pages.)

The Stock Markets.

Business has not expanded since the holidays in the way that many dealers hoped and expected, so there is much sorrow and tribulation all round the House. The only bright spot has been the Oil section, and even here the dealings are mainly professional, although it is certain that the public are more inclined to try their luck in Oils than in any other speculative ventures. Mines, apart from Russians, are quite out of favour, and even the rubber market has failed to benefit to any material extent from the sharp rise in the price of the commodity. It is all very disheartening, and there never was a time when the usually buoyant spirits of the Stock Exchange gave place to such gloomy views as one hears expressed from one end of "the Street" to the other. Of course, things will come right again, and perhaps sooner than the pessimists believe, but at present there is quite enough trouble to go on with. Just when the existence of the civil war in Mexico was almost forgotten or ignored, the whole question becomes intensely acute by the fear of intervention on the part of the United States, and it is impossible to foresee what the outcome may be. Another bombshell dropped into the markets was the unexpected decision of the Canadian Railway Commission ordering a reduction in rates west of the Great Lakes. Berlin, which speculates heavily in Canadas, took alarm and threw out stock by the thousand, but supporters of the Canadian Pacific state that the effect of the decision on earnings will be quite trifling. Perhaps they are right, but, if they are, the farmers in the West will have a good deal to say on the subject, and they are becoming increasingly powerful both in organisation and voting power. Elsewhere markets were as nearly lifeless as possible.

For the Second Time of Asking.

As we go to press, the directors of the Bode Rubber Estates Limited are again meeting their shareholders with a view to persuading them to support the reconstruction of the company which failed to be carried on the poll held after the meeting held three weeks ago. The situation has not changed in any material degree in the interval. The trustees have secured the appointment of a Receiver and Manager for the debenture holders, but Mr. Justice Eve, in making the order, expressly refused to permit him to borrow money or to continue to act after the 31st of May without leave. The directors make a point of the fact that Mr. Scharrer, upon whose initiative (so they say) the opposition to the scheme took shape, has now come into line with their views; but they have left out of their calculations Mr. W. S. Curtis and his solicitors, Messrs. H. [illegible] and Co., who were instrumental in defeating the scheme on the poll and who, we imagine, will not feel any more inclined to permit the thing to be rushed through now than they were at the first time of asking.

Canadian Borrowing.

In the past three months Canadian issues in London have amounted to about £16,500,000, which does not include the £8,000,000 or so raised by the Canadian Pacific on 6 per cent. Land Certificates. And the full tide of borrowing goes on without intermission, every week seeing some new loan for some provincial or municipal authority floated. Altogether, Canada, with its population of less than 8,000,000, must owe over £500,000,000, mainly to the mother country, and its trade, far from justifying this huge indebtedness, tends to go from bad to worse. Certainly there was a slight improvement last year, according to the published figures, but it did nothing to wipe out previous deficiencies; and from a national point of view the country must be regarded as hopelessly bankrupt—merely kept going by more and ever more borrowing. Our remarks about the prospect of Canada supplying three *Dreadnoughts* to the Navy were regarded in some quarters as rather uncalled for, but the ships have not materialised, and, we are sure, never will.

Consolidated Oil Fields of South Africa.

We hear that the Company has acquired an important shale property in Natal, which has been most favourably reported upon by Mr. Cunningham Craig. We hope to give further details in our next issue.

Anglo-Cuban Mercantile Co.

In our last issue we dealt at some length with this undertaking, the sponsors for which are the Federation Contract Syndicate, Limited, of Salisbury House, London Wall, E.C., and expressed the opinion that it presented excellent prospects. The guano would seem to possess exceptional fertilising qualities, and, judging by recent cables from Cuba, is arousing great interest in influential quarters in the island. For instance, we learn that Professor Crawley, the Director of the Government Agricultural Testing Estate, is greatly interested in the large deposit of guano controlled by the company, and has promised to co-operate with the Board in interesting Cuban agriculturalists. His assistant, Dr. Karutz, who is the adviser to all the Cuban farmers, is joining the local board and is of opinion that the company's guano is so superior to all known fertilisers that it will cause a revolution in the trade. We further understand that the Anglo-Cuban Mercantile Company have received during the last few weeks many offers from English and Continental firms for a supply of their guano and that some of them have shown their faith in the prospects of the undertaking by acquiring a financial interest in it. To summarise the position, therefore, the company undoubtedly possesses large deposits of high-grade fertiliser, a product of paramount importance to the Island of Cuba, the most famous tobacco-growing district in the world. Hitherto artificial manures have had to be imported in large quantities, owing to the scarcity and consequent high price of natural manures. The profits made by other companies dealing in fertilisers such, for instance, as the Pacific Phosphate Company, are considerable, and there seems to be no reason why, with capable management, the Anglo-Cuban Company should not do equally well. The 7 per cent. participating preference shares, therefore, strike us as an attractive investment.

Central Lafon Tinfields.

With reference to our comments on this reconstruction in our last issue, we find on further inquiry that we were in error in stating that the issue of the 10 per cent. preference shares had been underwritten. Inasmuch as the whole point of our criticism was that the underwriters had been let off their bargain, we are anxious to make the necessary correction. We are informed on good authority that the reconstruction scheme has been successfully carried through, over 100,000 shares in the new company having been applied for by "outsiders," so that, if the present shareholders do not come into the scheme, there seem to be others to take their places.

Life Assurance Loans with Sureties.

The practice of granting loans guaranteed by sureties should not, we think, be encouraged by Life Assurance Companies. A recent case brought under our notice satisfied us that the course adopted by a well-known company was harsh in the extreme and compelled one of the guarantors to pass through the Bankruptcy Court. Apart from the danger of the guarantor finding himself placed in an unenviable position when called upon to meet default in payment of principal, interest and premium, the system is altogether foreign to the legitimate nature of life assurance and from a legal standpoint we are inclined to think that the companies transacting this class of speculative investment come within the scope of the Moneylenders Act.

Associated County Halls and Theatres.

In our issue of February 28th, we referred to the sorry plight in which this concern found itself and pressed shareholders to be up and doing, so that the threatened collapse of the enterprise might be averted. We suggested the appointment of a committee of investigation, but our advice was evidently not followed. On the 8th inst., just on the eve of the holidays, the directors sent out a notice summoning an extraordinary general meeting to follow the annual one on Thursday last, when liquidation was to be proposed, unless shareholders agreed to find more capital in order to convert some of the company's halls into cinemas. As the directors appear to have been unable to carry on the business of the company with any degree of success, it might be as well to wind it up. In referring to the directors, we would exempt from blame Lieutenant Rosevere and Mr. E. H. Clift, who joined the board last November but had enough of it in six weeks, when they resigned.

Bank Notes to be Won! See "Bullets" Special Holiday Prizes—page 34.

SPECIAL HOLIDAY PRIZES!

FIRST PRIZE

£500

FIRST PRIZE

2nd Prize £50

3rd Prize £25

20 HOLIDAY PRIZES

TEN £10 NOTES. TEN £5 NOTES.

50 Prizes of 10/- | **4,000 Handsome HOLIDAY PRIZES Value £900.** | **1,000 Prizes of 2/6**

PRIZES INCREASED TO £1,775 IN VALUE.

Bullets can only be constructed from any of these 40 Examples:—

DODGING WORK
THE FINAL TIE
RADICALLY WRONG
NOT VERY LIKELY
CORDIAL WELCOME
A PRETTY FIGURE
OLD OFFENDERS
OTHER FELLOW'S GIRL

IN CONFIDENCE
WAR IS SUBJECT
WELL SUPPORTED
HER ANSWER WAS
ARMED INTERVENTION
AT THE PALACE
NO EMPLOYMENT
OUT ALL NIGHT

HIDDEN AWAY
MAKES SPARKS FLY
PERMANENT OFFICIALS
DOWN WITH DRINK
AMATEUR'S TRIALS
REVOLUTIONARY IDEA
SALUTING THE FLAG
CHRONIC COMPLAINT

IN THE SPRING
RANK FAILURE
LANDING THE FORCE
STARTLING REVELATIONS
GARDEN PRODUCE
BEST NOT MENTIONED
STABLE INFORMATION
EARLY TO BED

TRULY RURAL
LOST CHARACTER
STAR ARTIST
WHEN TOO LATE
DEMANDS ATTENTION
HARD TO FIND
SINKING FUNDS
COOL AND REFRESHING

5,073 PRIZES TO BE WON THIS WEEK

HOW TO MAKE BULLETS.

First choose any of our forty examples. Then give two words or three words having some bearing on the example chosen. The FIRST AND LAST word selected MUST begin with ANY OF THE LETTERS in the example chosen. If three words are elected any word can be used as the middle word.

For instance, if you take the example "HARD TO FIND," and take the letters "H" and "F," using the word "without" as the middle word, you can make the Bullet, "HUSBAND WITHOUT FAULTS." From the example, "STARTLING REVELATIONS," the Bullet, "GOSSIP'S OCCUPATION," can be made. Again, if you choose the example, "CORDIAL WELCOME," using the letter "W" as initial for both the first and last word, you can form the Bullet, "WIDOW GIVES WOOER."

Competitors may send in two BULLETS on one coupon for sixpence. But if both coupons are used a postal order for one shilling must be sent.

The ink will not run if the coupon is slightly warmed before being used.

Competitors can see the "Bullets" Judges at work at any time.

Closing date, Wednesday, April 29th.

Example .....

Bullet .....

Example .....

Bullet .....

'62 P.O. No. .....

I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 33

Signed .....

Address .....

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

Not more than three words may be used to construct a Bullet.

This week's Bullets Coupons will also be found in "MARY BULL" dated May 2nd.

Closing date, Wednesday, April 29th

Example .....

Bullet .....

Example .....

Bullet .....

'82 P.O. No. .....

I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 33

Signed .....

Address .....

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

If Both Coupons Are Used a Postal Order for 1/- Must be Sent.

ENVELOPES SHOULD BE MARKED "BULLETS NO. 82," "JOHN BULL," LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.

Write "COMPETITION" on top left hand corner of Envelope.

The Result of this Competition will appear in our issue dated May 16th.

For Rules, etc., see opposite page.

RESULT OF 79TH BULLETS COMPETITION.

FIRST PRIZE OF £500 :—

Mrs. A. R. DOVE,
67, Murchison Street,
Columbus Ravine, Scarborough.

Example—GETTING UP TIME.
Bullet—MOTHER'S, DURING MEALS.

SECOND PRIZE OF £50 :—

Mr. WALTER JESSOP,
149, Higginshaw Road, Oldham.

Example—NEXT DOOR NEIGHBOURS.
Bullet—UNBEND WHEN "STRAITENED."

THIRD PRIZE OF £25 :—

Mr. W. WILSON,
22, Newburn Road,
Tinsley, Sheffield.

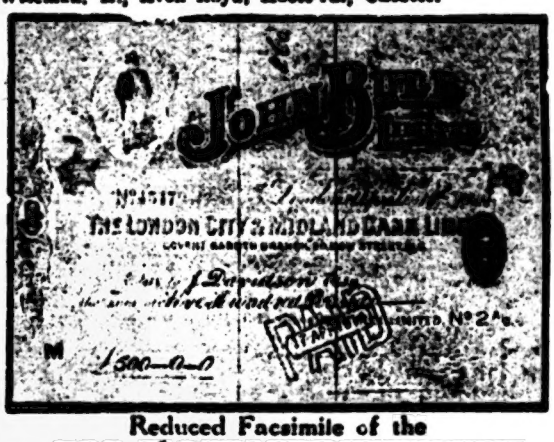
Example—UNDER THE HAMMER.
Bullet—THE PREHISTORIC MARRIAGE.

20 PRIZEWINNERS OF £2 10s. EACH.

Mr. W. SPENCER SMITH, 4, Stafford Parade, Halifax: EXPENSIVE DRESS—SURROUNDS THEATRE "SWEETS."
Mr. T. W. GARNER, 292, Church Road, Garston, Liverpool: WHEN VISITORS CALL—"STANDING" DETERMINES "SEATING."
Mr. CHAS. COX, 53, Tulse Road, Upton Park, London, E.: FATHER PAYS—FOR "TIGHT HABITS."
Mr. ALFRED D. CLUTTERBUCK, 7, Camaid ge Gardens, Leith: ASKING THE MISSUS—TYPIST DECLINED TICKETS.
Mr. J. T. MATTHEWS, 28, Hodgkinson Road, East Kirkby, Notts: THE MORNING AFTER—OFFICER VERIFYING ADDRESS.
Mr. W. CHAMPNESS, 364, Slade Lane, Levenshulme, Man. COLONEL SEELY—"CONFOUNDS" HIS CRITICS.
Mr. C. V. TRAVERS, 208, Church Road, Hove, Sussex: A DAINTY DISH—DAINTY COMPANION IMPROVES.
Mr. R. FINN, Feltard, Co. Tipperary, Ireland: HOME RULE BILL—OUTSIDE NEWSAGENTS REGULARLY.
Mr. A. EDWARDS, "Silverdale," Sylvan Ave., Sale, Man.: NEXT DOOR NEIGHBOURS—ON "SPEAKING" TERMS.
Miss H. NARBETT, 7, Bonville Terrace, Swansea: THE MORNING AFTER—HENDON—STIFF NECKS.
Mr. J. W. PERRIS, 41, Mary Road, Gillingham, Kent: TAXING THE BACHELOR—GIVE OR TAKE.
Mr. E. NORTH, "Sunnyside," Westridge Road, St. Deny's, Southampton: WHEN VISITORS CALL—"RESERVES" REPLACE "REGULARS."
Mrs. QUINTON, 52, Rylett Crescent, Ravenscourt Park, W.: HOLDING THE REINS—"ENDS" AT HOME.
Mrs. D. E. FREEMAN, 20, Russell Street, Stroud, Glos.: TAXING THE BACHELOR—LACKS "SINGLE" ADVOCATE.
Mr. W. E. HAY, 1 6 Shirley Road, Southampton: CHAMPAGNE SUPPER—ANOTHER BILL PASSED.
Mr. E. HARRIS, Royal County Dairy, Haydons Road, Wimbledon: LOOKS PROMISING—MAKING ADJUDICATOR SMILE.
Mr. B. ROBINSON, 11, Beaumont Road, Whetley Lane, Bradford, Yorks: UNDER THE HAMMER—THE DOWNWARD TACK.
Mr. G. D. TIDY, 1, St. Ann's Gardens, Haverstock Hill, N.W.: ASKING THE MISSUS—SOMETIMES DOESN'T "ANSWER."
Mr. P. MEREDITH, 49, Castle Street, Edgeley, Stockport: CAST FOR CLEVERNESS—LAST COMES FIRST.
Mr. P. KERR, Lillonhurst, Dundee: THE MORNING AFTER—REALIZED, DREAM'S ABSURDITY.

50 PRIZEWINNERS OF £1 EACH.

Adams, N. Miss, 40, Sidney-rd., Wood Green, N.
Bates, A., 7, Lynwood-rd., R dhill, Surrey.
Brandon, F. Mrs., 180, Ampthill-rd., Bedford.
Campbell, A., 3, Logan-s ., Edinburgh.
Chatterton, T. W., 22, Cronteth-rd., Bootle, Lancs.
Clark, P. J., 76, Sidney-rd., Bootle, Liverpool.
Cook, C. F., 152, Blythe-rd., Hammersmith, W.
Cornock, R., 18, Hawksley-rd., Hillsboro', Sheffield.
Cowie, A. H., 31, Ladysmith-rd., Polsloe Park Exeter.
Curtis A., 11, G. Block, Peabody Bldgs., Duke-st., Blackfriars S.E.
Edwards, A., Hope Inn, 297, Chester-rd., Hulme, Manchester.
Ellis, F. H., 130, Torridon-rd., Catford, S.E.
Emery, W., Strathmore, Llandudno.
Escher, C. Mrs., 3, Dean-st., Birmingham.
Graham, J., 293, Portmanmoor-rd., Cardiff.
Hadden, R., 10, Rodney-st., Stonehaven, Kincardineshire.
Haig, J. E., 3, Warden-place, Edinburgh.
Hayward, J., 35, Queen's-rd., Walthamstow.
Heatner, A., The Savage Club, Adelphi-terr, W.C.
Hopkinson, H. W., 19, Upper Rushton-rd., Thornbury, Bradford.
King, E. B., 49, Point Pleasant, Wandsworth, S.W.
Little, M. E., Miss, Breadsall, Derbys.
Lloyd, G., 1, Werndu-ter., Underwood, Caerphilly, Glam.
Mann, E. A., Healaugh, Richmond, Yorks.
Mills, A. B. W., 15, The Arcade, Portsmouth.
Munro, G. J., 115, Craig Park Drive, Deanistoun, Glasgow.
Newsome, S., Berry Hill, Heckmondwike, Yorkshire.
Pennington, L., 100, Upper North-st., Poplar, E.
Pegum, J. R., New-rd., Laxey, I.O.M.
Price, M. Mrs., 52, Addington-rd., Reading.
Pritchard, W., Pte., 3rd Coldstream Guards, Chelsea Bks., S.W.
Ramsay, J., 48, Stapleton-rd., Bristol.
Rolls, G. S., 102, Appin-crest, Dunfermline, Fife.
Rowe, D., Ramsbury, Wilts.
Slater, G. E., Miss, 31, East-rd., Longsight, Manchester.
Soutar, Maggie, Victoria Cottage, South-rd., Lochee.
Storey, O., Langham, nr. Oakham, Rutland.
Stephens, F., York Villa, West Drayton, Middlesex.
Suggett, E. D., 60, Turney-st., Trent Bridge, Nottingham.
Tattersall, F. A., 8, George-st., Romford, Essex.
Teignmouth Shore, W., 27, Kensington Court Mansion, London, W.
Thompson, G., Slitting Mill, nr. Rugeley, Staffs.
Thomas, O. J., Or-Sgt-Inst. Vane Armoury, Crook, Co. Durham.
Tullett, A., 70, Waterford-rd., Fulham, S.W.
Uppadine, G., Telegraph Dept., G.P.O., Nottingham.
Vernon, H. M., "Fatal Wedding" Co., Tyne Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Wardleworth, E., Mrs., Maston House, Over Winsford, Cheshire.
Weeks, J. H., Corpo. Commissionaires, 419, Strand.
Williams, J. H., c.o. Mrs. Parry, Cefn Farm, Bagillt, N. Wales.
Wiseman, H., Avon Royd, Hoole-rd., Chester.



Reduced Facsimile of the

£500 "BULLETS" CHEQUE

Paid to Last Week's FIRST PRIZEWINNER.

The original of the above Cheque will be on view at the premises of Mr. O. Freedenson, Newsagent, Exchange Stage, Victoria Street, Manchester until April 25th, and hence until April 29th at those of Mr. J. Mamelok, Bookseller, 33, Oxford Road, Manchester.

Selection of 5s. Prize Winners.

Radburn, Annie, 20, High-st., Leominster, Herefordshire
Radcliffe, Mrs. Q., East Anchorage, Helensburgh.
Radcliffe, Miss, 87, Rothschild-st., West Norwood.
Rayner, Miss E. R., 5, New Brown-st., Manchester.
Read, E. G., 39, Parsons Green, Fulham, S.W.
Reck, Doris, 23, Edinburgh-rd., Upper Armley, Leeds.
Reynolds, F. W., 97, Chatham-st., Walworth, S.E.
Richardson, W. W., 106, Addison-rd., Brighton.
Richardson, E. G., 18, Marlboro'-ter., Blenheim-rd., Barnsley, Yorks.
Richardson, R. G., Rathfreland, Co. Down, Ireland.
Riches, G., 5, Howmans-bldgs., Oak-st., Norwich.
Rignall, Mrs., 2a, Shanden-rd., Clapham Park, S.W.
Riley, Rose, 37, Erskine Hill, Golder's Green, N.W.
Roberts, J. J., 27, Hathershaw-lane, Oldham, Lancs.
Roberts, Mrs. D., 1, Brookfield-rd. N., Liverpool.
Roberts, D. D., Dorothy Villa, Milton-rd., Weston-super-Mare.
Roberts, E. G., 30, Smith-st., Shoebury-ness.
Robertson, Miss C., 103, Cromwell-rd., S.W.
Robinson, Mrs. E., 49, Southampton-rd., Northampton
Robinson, L., Penallta-rd., Ystrad Mynach, Glam.
Rogers, Alice, Allandale, Rock-lane, Melling, nr. Liverpool
Roose, D. C., 18, Alexandra-rd., Birkenhead.
Ropson, J. R., 1, Franche-road, Leicester.
Rose, A., 8, Scarisbrick-st., Wigan,
Ross, P., Royal Hotel, Ascot.
Rossignol, J. Le, 29, Green-st., Jersey.
Rowland, Mrs. A., 24, Norton-gdns., Norbury, S.W.
Russell, J. F., 15, Farnham-st., Belfast.
Ryan, D., Exchange-buildings, Dundalk, co. Louth.
Ryde, W., 1, Henry-st., Hulme, Manchester.
Salmonson, C. C., Westdown, Bradworthy, Devon.
Saunders, W., 117, Waldegrave-rd., Teddington.
Scammell, A., 96, Western-st., Swansea.
Scanlon, B., 16, Wallington-rd., Copnor, Hants.
Schoop, Miss E., Parkbury, Colney-st., nr. St. Albans, Herts.
Scopes, E., Veterans' Corps, 28, Standard-st., New Kent-rd., London.
Sharman, M., 47, Bethel-st., Sheffield.
Sharp, J., 34, Imperial-avenue, Stoke Newington, N.
Shaw, A. H., 38, Argyle-rd., Ilford.
Shaw, Miss D., 266, Bishopthorpe-rd., York.
Shaw, A. H., 266, Bishopthorpe-road, York.
Shurmer, B. G., 60, Basingstoke-rd., Reading.
Sillis, Miss M., East Rudham, King's Lynn.
Simmons, Mrs., 37, Riverdale-rd., Plumstead, London.
Simmons, J. W. T., Stow House, Charmouth, Dorset.
Singleton, Miss P., 1, Russell-rd., Ipswich.
Skelding, G., Hemming-st. Dairy, Kidderminster.

"BULLETS" RULES. (*which must be strictly adhered to*).

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the Judges, in consultation with the Editor, is the best "Bullet" received, and the other prizes in order of merit, the test being cleverness, aptness and originality. A careful study of the winning efforts from week to week will also indicate the standard of merit to be attained. The right to divide a prize or prizes among two or more competitors is reserved.

2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of the coupons on page 34, and only two attempts may be written on each coupon.

3. Both coupons may be used, but each coupon must be accompanied by a postal order for 6d. made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed _____ & Co. Competitors must write their names and addresses, and the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Competitors sending more than one coupon may enclose one postal order for the full amount covering the number of their coupons. Stamps will not be accepted.

4. Coupons must not be defaced in any manner, or have portions of another coupon pasted upon them.

5. Entries must reach us not later than the first post on the morning of Wednesday, April 29th.

6. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges.

7. The Editor's decision on any matter of dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

No element of chance enters into the adjudication of our "Bullets" Competition. Every coupon is judged by TWO DIFFERENT Members of our special staff of Adjudicators, who have been elected by reason of their high qualification for this work. This staff put aside all coupons which they consider sufficiently meritorious to qualify for a prize. So that, before any coupon is rejected, TWO DIFFERENT Judges have to decide that it is not of sufficient merit to receive a prize. Then, all coupons selected are considered by the Competition Editor in consultation with the Judges. In this manner the coupons are reduced in number to correspond with the total number of prizes to be awarded. The Competition Editor, again in consultation with the Judges, next selects all the lines of outstanding merit. These are placed before the Editor, who, after consultation, decides finally the order of merit. This system of judging keeps a large staff of Adjudicators continually occupied the whole of the week—so thoroughly is the work done. We would point out that, by this system of judging, no award is decided arbitrarily by one mind. It is only after a line has been considered sufficiently meritorious by a BODY OF JUDGES IN CONSULTATION, all of whom are specially qualified for the work, that it can receive a cash or any other prize. As regards the principal prizes, the coupons of outstanding merit are considered many times by the Editor, and also by the Competition Editor and the adjudication staff in consultation, before the final awards are made. In a sentence, ALL coupons are read and considered, and re-read and re-considered by a specially selected staff of highly-qualified Adjudicators, under the general supervision of an experienced Competition Expert—and in consultation with the Editor. That is why "Bullets" constitute a genuine skill contest, free from any and every element of arbitrary decision or of chance selection.

Complete List of all cash and other Prize-winners in the above Competition can be seen at the Offices of "John Bull."

Racing Notes.

The market on the City and Suburban since its formation early last week has been pretty firm, and there seems to be a general consensus of opinion that the race is good for Wrack, Lord Rosebery's horse. A 10 lbs. penalty for the Newbury Cup performance is not prohibitive, and the horse is sure to run well. The latter remark also applies to Drinmore, who with Cheshire up, won so decisively last year. He has but very little more weight to shoulder now, and Donoghue, who rides him, should be a few pounds better than last year's jockey. He will go close, and will probably be placed, but perhaps the best thing in the race is

SUN YAT,

who, although reported as having the worst of a trial with Blue Stone, we have reason to believe not only won the trial but won easily. Blue Stone has already proved himself to be in good form, and better than he should win this race. How does this agree with your competition coupons:—Sun Yat, 1; Wrack, 2; Drinmore 3?

Other events to-day (Wednesday) Copthorne Plate—AMADOR; Tadworth Plate—CLAP GATE; Kingswood Plate—WITLING; Hyde Park Plate—CHELANDRY B.

At Sandown on Thursday THE FOREST can take the Esher Cup; KNIGHT OF GLIN the Twickenham Handicap, and RANGAG the Trial Selling Plate. On Friday CASTELLAN may win the Prince Albert Handicap, and the very best thing of the week is ANTIPAS* in the Stud Produce Stakes.

The heavy going at Plumpton was fatal to the chances of the Editor's horses, except in the case of the staying BEDGROVE, but if the present fine weather continues followers of the colours should do well at Sandown.

H. DIAMOND'S CITY AND SUBURBAN SWEEP.

Our representative was present at the draw for the above, and reports that, as usual, everything was conducted with the most scrupulous fairness. There were also at the drawing, in addition to other papers' representatives, about a dozen previous prize winners, who each in turn took a part in the work, and made his own private list of numbers, names and addresses for comparison with the printed result sheet. A declaration of satisfaction with the *bona fides* of the draw was afterwards signed at the British Consulate by all the supervisors.

ANOTHER RACING COMPETITION.

£500 FOR PLACING 3 HORSES.

HURST PARK VICTORIA CUP
to be run on
SATURDAY MAY 2.

£100 MUST BE WON.

Our first competition having proved a success, we are running this week a similar contest and invite, not only followers of Racing, but all our readers to enter.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—We go to press too early to get the Acceptances for the Victoria Cup. Consequently, all the horses whose names are given on the Coupon are not likely to run. In fact, 15 to 20 will be the probable number of Starters. Our readers, however, will find the Acceptances in the sporting papers of April 22nd or 23rd, and so can discover the Probable Runners.

WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO.

Opposite you will find a coupon containing the names of the horses entered for the Victoria Cup, to be run at Hurst Park on May 2nd. Your task is to put the figure 1 in front of the name of the horse which you think will finish first, the figure 2 against the name of the horse which you think will finish second; the figure 3 against the name of the horse which you think will finish third. To the reader or readers placing correctly the first, second and third horses, we shall award £500. In the event of nobody placing all three correctly we shall award a prize of £200 to the competitor or competitors whose coupon gives the first and second correctly. If no competitor correctly places the first and second, £100 will go to the sender of the coupon placing the first and third correctly. If nobody succeeds in doing this the £100 will go to the person or persons sending in the most correct coupon.

HOW TO MARK YOUR COUPON.

If you think, for instance, that "*Cuthbert*" will win you must put the figure 1 opposite that horse's name. If you believe that "*By George*" will finish second, you must put the figure 2 opposite his name. If you predict that "*Bachelor's Wedding*" will finish third, you must put the figure 3 against his name.—N B.—You must not mark more than three horses on any single coupon, or else such coupon will be disqualified.

In the event of competitors tieing, the prize money won will be equally divided. The Editor's decision is to be final.

SEND AS MANY COUPONS AS YOU LIKE.

CLOSING DATE MAY 1. Entries to be addressed to "John Bull," 25, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C., mark envelope in top left-hand corner, Racing No. 2, and post so as to reach us not later than Fri. May 1.

JOHN BULL ENTRANCE FORM.

HORSES ENTERED FOR THE VICTORIA CUP, TO BE RUN AT HURST PARK, SATURDAY, MAY 2nd.

	SPANISH PRINCE		LORD ANNANDALE
	LIGHT BRIGADE		WISE SYMON
	MAIDEN ERLEGH		CYKLON
	CIGAR		DIADUMENOS
	HARMONIOON		SAN STEFANO
	GREAT SURPRISE		CALGARY
	CASTLETON		JAMESON
	ETON BOY		PERCIVAL KERNE
	ALDEGOND		DUNDRUM
	WRACK		PICTORIAL
	BONBON ROSE		ROYAL WEAVER
	MERCUTIO		HIGH ROCK
	SIR MARTIN		ELGON
	BRAXTED		HALIFAX
	OUTRAM		DAN RUSSEL
	PRUE		RATHER BOLDER
	SLEIPNER		SWEETEST MELODY
	APPRENTICE		LANCELOT
	YOUNG PEGASUS		BRAKESPEAR
	MEDIATOR		WHITEBOY
	FLIPPANT		KHERI
	RADIANT		FOXGLOVE
	SUN YAT		DALY GIRL
	BACHELOR'S WEDDING		PARVUS
	CUTHBERT		RAWAL PINDI
	WAIONTHA		ROI DONOVAN
	BY GEORGE!		SCREAMER
	HAPPY WARRIOR		

I enter "JOHN BULL" Racing Competition in accordance with the rules announced on this page and agree to accept the Editor's published decision as final and legally binding, and enter on that understanding.

Signed.....

Address.....

.....

B

Entrance Forms must be cut, not torn out.

WE WIRE WINNERS!

"Gale's Special"

The "SPECIAL" that Guarantees Your Success!

"It is many years since GALE'S SPECIAL first saw the light of day, and it is pleasing to see that the old standards and old reputation as a sound adviser are not only maintained but going stronger than ever. Few tips are given but that these are well on the mark can be seen by reference to its long list of successes during the past season."—*Vide The Jockey, November 22nd, 1913.*

Next Monday's issue of "GALE'S SPECIAL," published at 2s. 6d. will be sent post free in plain sealed envelope upon receipt of 1s. P.O. or Stamps to all readers of "JOHN BULL." enclosing this paragraph

Racing speculations to-day are similar to Stock Exchange speculations, in that they do not associate themselves with the same risk as formerly, and to the sportsman who speculates judiciously the opportunity presents itself with the opening of the Flat-Racing Season whereby he may limit his losses with a prospect of unlimited profits.

Sound judgment and reliable information are the most important factors of success in Turf speculation, and the reputation we maintained last year for definite and reliable intelligence combined with straightforward and honourable business transactions with all our subscribers should be a sufficient guarantee that sportsmen may invest fearlessly upon the information we send to them through the medium of

Gale's Primus Wire

The Most Successful Service Ever Inaugurated.

It is impossible to print a full list of selections in the space we have at our disposal, but during the month of March all subscribers to this service received:—

March 4th.—

BALL'S BLUFF, 5 to 2 agst., Won.

March 10th—

ROYAL DEMAND, 10 to 1 agst., Won.

March 14th.—

Lavisher, ... Second.

March 20th.—

LINDSAY GORDON, 4 to 1 agst., Won.

The charge for this Special Primus Wire is TWENTY-FIVE POUNDS PER MESSAGE. In no circumstances whatever is more than one selection ever mentioned on this message. It amounts to this, ONE SELECTION ONLY—THE BEST SELECTION THAT MONEY, BRAINS AND INFLUENCE CAN PROCURE.

The next selection on this GALE'S PRIMUS WIRE will be sent from Stockton, on Saturday, April 25th and

As a Special Offer to JOHN BULL readers we will send this Special Wire upon receipt of £10, instead of the usual charge of £25.

and UNLESS THE SELECTION SENT OUT IS SUCCESSFUL, AND AT REASONABLE ODDS, WE GUARANTEE TO SEND OUR NEXT TATTERSALL'S RING WIRE ENTIRELY FREE OF CHARGE. On the other hand, should the selection win at the odds of not less than 8 to 1 against, subscribers will of course, forward the balance of £15.

Note that our ONLY address is:—

"Gale's Special,"

Ruskin Buildings, Birmingham

Telegraphic Address: "WINNERS, Birmingham."

£10,000

guaranteed on the

DERBY.

("John Bull" says: The Totalisator Guarantee is gilt-edged.)

Copies of letters from successful clients:—

7, Admiralty Rd., Portsmouth.
Dec. 4th, 1913.

Please accept my thanks for the promptitude in dispatching cheque for £1,500 and for precautions taken by you in safeguarding its receipt by me,

(Signed), Winifred M. Everitt.

Hill Top Farm, Fairburn, Ferrybridge, Yorks. March 28th, 1914.

I received the cheque this morning, value, £2,500, with many thanks. (Signed), G. R. Atkinson.

OVER £45,000 HAS BEEN DISTRIBUTED.

The following papers have written complimentary opinions about The Totalisator, Lucerne:—"TIMES." "STANDARD." "IRISH TIMES." "DAILY EXPRESS." "IRISH INDEPENDENT." "MORNING ADVERTISER." "GLOBE." "WINNING POST." "JOHN BULL." "SPORTING LIFE." "PALL MALL GAZETTE." "BRADFORD DAILY TELEGRAPH." "LONDON MAIL." ETC.

Terms free on application mentioning this paper to

THE TOTALISATOR,

ESTABLISHED 1908.

Lucerne, Switzerland.

Managing Director - - H. CULLERNE-BOWN.

A £1,000 S.P. JOB: RACE AT ITS MERCY.

Like our LAST 1 HALF £1,000 COUPS, ALL WON, viz.: PITMASTON, BELGROVE, GALLANT, 10—1. Our NEAT £10 £1,000 S.P. JOB COUP runs NEXT TO-DAY. DEFEAT SCORNED. Only those HONOURABLY promising SECRECY need remit £1 (One pound nothing less accepted) for this REAL BIG WINNER. If it does not WIN EASILY at a nice price we will post you FREE until JUNE the 5/- "RACING STUD SPECIAL," which gives FOUR BIG TIPS each week. Already given OUTRAM, 25—1. TRIANON, 2nd, 100—8. CHINA COCK, L'pool Cup, 8—1, WRACK, 4—1, Newbury Cup. CHINA COCK, 11—4, Queen's Prize, besides minor event winners, such as THE BOSS, 6—1, etc., etc. PROOF, "JOHN BULL," which says, "run on straight lines." "THE RACING WORLD" says, "A remarkable run of big successes for years past." Post 5/- for NEXT MONDAY'S SPECIAL giving the 1,000 and 2,000 gns. gems, etc. Don't forget JEST last year.

"TATTLETON'S GOOD FOR CITY TO-DAY."

THE RACING STUD, 33A ROAD, FARRINGDON STREET, LONDON.

Study Security and send your Business to

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DON'T BET on week-end racing without first obtaining **The Racing Oracle** the most reliable journal dealing with the sport of kings. "Hermit's" selections appear exclusively in "The Racing Oracle," which is on sale everywhere on Friday, or post free from the Editor, 112, High Holborn, W.C. One copy, 1s.; 4 weeks, 3s. 8 weeks, 5s.

JOHN BULL PEN COUPON. Value 1/-

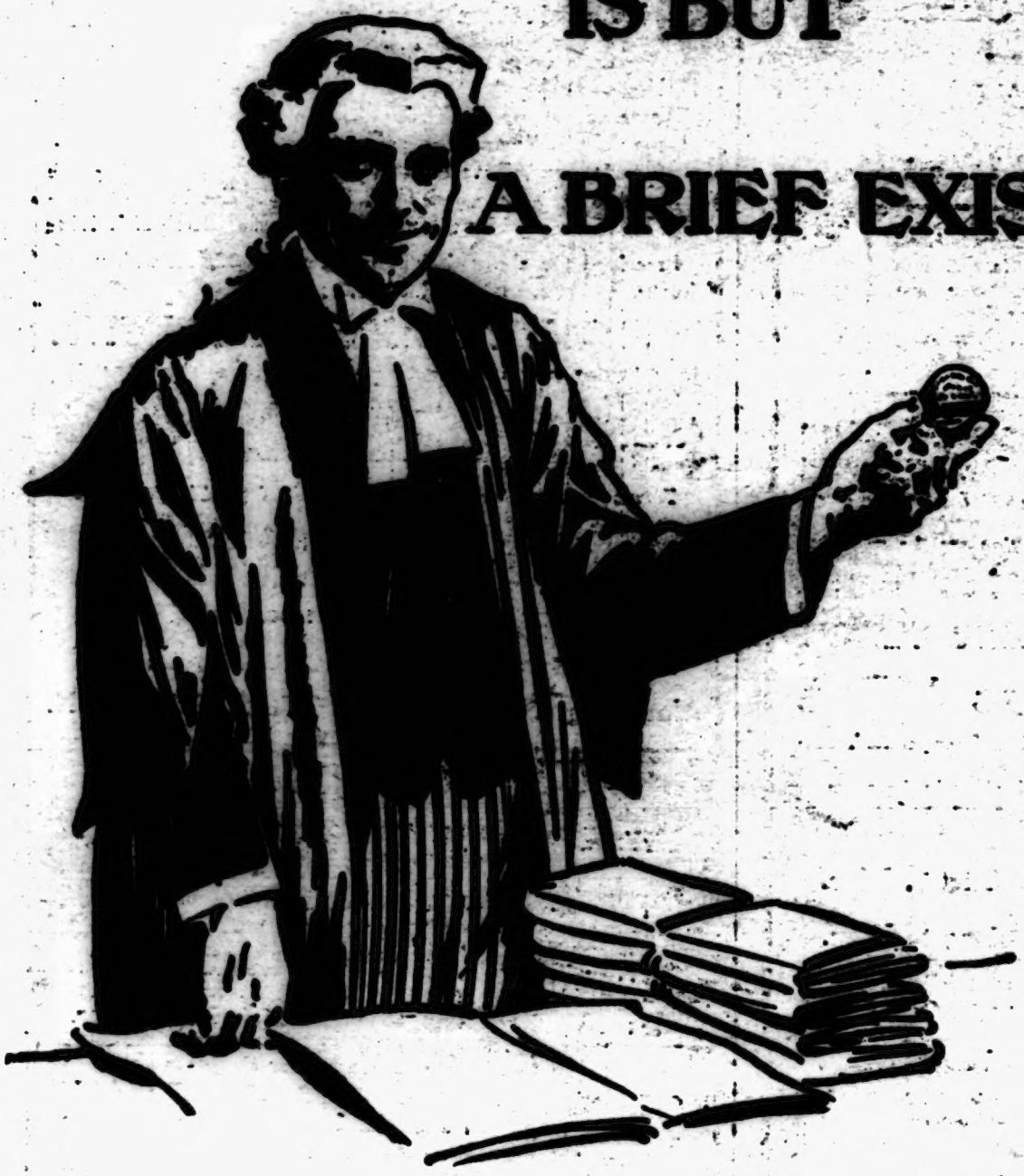
By sending this Coupon with P.O. 2/6 and loose 1d. stamp for postage, the holder is entitled to receive a John Bull Gold Nibbed Fountain Pen. Additional Coupons up to 12 from "John Bull" or "Mary Bull," any dates, may be saved and used in part payment, each counting as 1d. off the price. You may send 13 Coupons and P.O. for 1/6 only and loose 1d. stamp for postage. Address Pen Dept. "John Bull," Long Acre, London, W.C. April 25th, 1914.

N.B.—State whether you prefer a Fine, Medium, or Broad Nib.

LIFE, AFTER ALL,

IS BUT

A BRIEF EXISTENCE



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HELP US TO MAKE THE MOST OF IT"

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